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Beacon Health to acquire Allegan, Plainwell hospitals

By Jordan Wilcox
Assistant Publisher

For the second time in six years, Allegan's hospital will be under new ownership.

Beacon Health System is a South Bend-based, non-profit healthcare provider with more than 8,100 associates, 1,000 physicians, half a dozen hospitals in Northern Indiana, and the Three Rivers Health Hospital in Three Rivers, MI.

On April 3, it was announced that Beacon had signed a definitive agreement to acquire all Ascension Borgess properties, including Borgess's four hospitals – Ascension Borgess Allegan (formerly Allegan General), Ascension Borgess-Pipp in Plainwell, Ascension Borgess in Kalamazoo, and Ascension Borgess-Lee in Dowagiac – as well as 35 outpatient clinics, an ambulatory surgery center in Kalamazoo, three community foundations, and a stake in the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (WMed).

Beacon CEO, Kreg Gruber expressed great satisfaction and excitement over the opportunity to acquire Borgess.

Following the merger announcement, he issued the following statement, "Beacon Health System's primary focus is to deliver outstanding care to our communities. Expanding our reach deeper into southwest Michigan broadens access to high-quality, affordable care for communities served by Ascension, extends our service area, and provides growth opportunity to further strengthen the health system. This acquisition will create a bright future for these communities by ensuring access to quality healthcare services for generations."

Gruber also said that from their end the acquisition made sense not only because they can expand the health system, but because they can also expand their residency and training programs, something they've already reached their cap on in the South Bend Area. They believe the stake in WMed will be a great catalyst for this.

However, that's not an indication that Beacon will be cutting jobs or services. In fact, it's just the opposite.

When asked directly by Wilcox Newspapers, Gruber said that Beacon will attempt to keep all 2700 of Borgess's employees, and no job losses should be expected.

"Providing jobs is a key priority. All southwest Michigan clinicians and associates will be offered the opportunity to continue employment with Beacon Health System, provided they follow Beacon's hiring process and meet the legal requirements to work."

Ascension Borgess-Pipp

When asked about updates to Borgess's facilities and systems, Gruber said that there shouldn't be any big changes in the near future, but they do plan to enhance services and improve care.

"The teams at Beacon Health System and Ascension are committed to working together to ensure a smooth transition for team members, physicians, and consumers. Current Ascension patients will continue to receive the same excellent care from the providers they trust, with minimal, if any, disruption to patient care and community services prior to and after the closing."

One thing that is planned is bringing the advanced online self-scheduling software that Beacon uses at their other hospitals to the Borgess ones.

Beacon also plans to change the hospitals' overall guiding philosophy. In Indiana, Beacon is known for their "local governance model," and Gruber says that's exactly what will be implemented in Southwest Michigan.

Each hospital will have a local governance board made up of 14 community volunteers, serving on three three-year terms. The board will be responsible for oversight, advice, strategic planning, and serve as what Gruber calls, "his boss."

Furthering on their local philosophy, Gruber also said that the three local community foundations affiliated with the Allegan, Kalamazoo, and Dowagiac hospitals will be absorbed into Beacon's Foundation, but "any dollars raised in those communities will stay in those communities."

As to how this whole thing came about, Gruber says discussions began when Ascension approached them late last year about buying the Borgess properties to complete their exit from Michigan, something the St. Louis, MO-based corporation has been trying to do for years.

One year ago, Ascension owned 16 hospitals in Michigan. In August, they sold their four Northern Michigan hospitals to MyMichigan Health; and in October, they sold their eight Southeast Michigan hospitals to Henry Ford Health. With just the four Borgess hospitals left, Ascension wanted a local, community-oriented buyer.

Additionally, IRS filings and recent news reports show that Borgess has been struggling with staffing and finances, problems that Beacon has a proven track record of being able to overcome in their acquired properties.

With those two factors in mind, both parties agreed that Beacon was perfect.

COO of Ascension Michigan, Scott Cihak, FACHE, had this to say about the choice, "As a regional provider, Beacon Health System is positioned to serve patients through an integrated care delivery system to ensure that southwest Michigan has access to sustainable, quality health care long into the future. After an in-depth review, we found that our organizations are well-aligned culturally, which will streamline the integration process. Our communities are in good hands."

The transaction is pending regulatory approval from both the Michigan and Indiana Attorney Generals, but is expected to close this summer.

Gruber invites anyone who wants to learn more about the acquisition to visit https://beacon.health/bright-future.

PHS orders shelter in place due to photo of gun

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A shelter-in-place order was issued for Plainwell High School on Wednesday, April 2.

The order followed the discovery of photographs depicting a PHS students with what appeared to be a handgun and was issued "out of an abundance of caution." School staff also contacted the Plainwell Department of Public Safety for assistance.

Officers from the DPS arrived within minutes and conducted a search of the student in question as well as his belongings. The officers confirmed that no weapons were present.

The photos were determined to have been taken off school property at an address in Kalamazoo County. It was also determined that the gun shown in the photographs was a BB gun.

Upon the recommendation of the Plainwell Department of Public Safety, the shelter-in-place order was lifted, and normal school operations were resumed.

Plainwell Community Schools sent information about the incident to parents and caregivers of high school students via text and/or phone call shortly after 10 a.m.

Plainwell director of Public Safety Kevin Callahan praised the quick actions taken by Plainwell High School staff members after they became aware of the photographs.

"We take the safety and security of our schools extremely seriously," Callahan said. "We are grateful for the quick notification and professionalism of the Plainwell Public Schools Administration and School Safety Personnel.

"We work together on a daily basis in order to ensure the safety of students and staff."

According to Callahan, the case has been referred to Kalamazoo County authorities for further follow-up and investigation.

Callahan also issued a reminder to students, parents and educators of the importance of continuing to prioritize safety through the OK2SAY program.

"The OK2SAY program stands as a vital resource for preventing harm and fostering secure learning environments," Callahan said.

Launched in 2014 by the Michigan State Police (MSP), OK2SAY is a confidential reporting system designed to empower students, parents, school staff and community members to report potential threats or harmful behaviors affecting Michigan's schools.

The program covers a wide range of issues, including bullying, threats, substance abuse, mental health crises, and potential violence.

How to Use OK2SAY:

* Call: 8-555-OK2SAY (855-565-2729)
* Text: 652729 (OK-2SAY)
* Email: OK2SAY@mi.gov
* Online: www.ok2say.com
* Mobile App: Download "OK2SAY" from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of OK2SAY, protected under Michigan's Student Safety Act (Public Act 183 of 2013). Whether it's a student reporting a peer in distress or a parent flagging a potential threat, tipsters can speak up without fear of retaliation.

Easter egg hunts scheduled in Plainwell, Otsego

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Easter is fast approaching.

That, among other things, means it's time once again for the local Easter egg hunts in Plainwell and Otsego.

The egg hunt in Plainwell is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, at Hicks Park. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the first of three age-group hunts beginning at 10 a.m.

The youngest of the egg hunters—those who are two-to-four years old—are scheduled to collect eggs from 10 to 10:15 a.m. The five-to-seven year olds are scheduled from 10:15 to 10:30 a.m., with the eight-to-10 year olds taking their turn from 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 19th, 2025
At Memorial Park
Located at the corner of Dix St and Farmer St.
9:30 - REGISTRATION
9:45 BUNNY ARRIVES
10:00 - EASTER EGG HUNT BEGINS
You are welcome to take your own pictures with our Bunny
Sponsored by The Otsego Rotary Club
In Partnership With:
Nulty Insurance - USG - The Otsego District Library -
- Friendship Wesleyan Church - City of Otsego
PRIZE DRAWINGS
Birth - 3 years: Large Stuffed Bunny
4 years - 6 years: 16" Bike
7 years -8 years: 20" Bike
9 years - 10 years: 24" Bike

Times for the age groups are subject to change based on how long the preceding age groups take, so it is recommended to arrive early.

The egg hunt itself is just a start of the fun for the Plainwell event, which is a joint effort of First United Methodist Church of Plainwell, First Baptist Church of Plainwell, Friendship Wesleyan Church and Faithway Church and is scheduled to run through 12:30 p.m.

There will also be prizes, candy and an Easter Walk, while the Bronson Trauma Team will be on site fitting and handing out free bike helmets. Three non-profit organizations will also be on hand accepting donations.

The Otsego Easter Egg Hunt will follow a week later, on Saturday, April 19, at Memorial Park.

Once again sponsored by the Otsego Rotary Club, the Otsego hunt begins with registration at 9:30 a.m., with the Easter Bunny scheduled to make his arrival at 9:45 a.m. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to take their own photos of their child/children with the Easter Bunny.

The egg hunt is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. Each of the four groups will start at the same time, but each will be located on a different softball field at Memorial Park.

The age groups are: birth to three years; four to six years; seven and eight years; and nine and 10 years.

Following the egg hunt, a drawing will be held with prizes being given away in each of the age groups. The prizes are as follows: birth to three years a large stuffed bunny; four to six years a 16-inch bike; seven and eight years a 20-inch bike; and nine and 10 years a 24-inch bike.

The Otsego Rotary Club is sponsoring the egg hunt in partnership with Nulty Insurance, USG, the Otsego District Library, Friendship Wesleyan Church and the City of Otsego.

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Allegan Public Schools GO debt rating improves

By Gari Voss

The announcement came from the S&P (Stand & Poor's) Global Rating office on April 3, 2025 that the general obligation (GO) debt rating for Allegan Public Schools had been upgraded to stable and given an 'A' underlying rating.

"At the same time, we assigned our 'AA' long-term rating and our 'A' underlying rating to the district's approximately $14.685 million series III 2025 unlimited-tax GO school-building and site bonds. The outlook on the long-term rating is stable, reflecting the state program rating outlook," shared credit analyst Moreen Skyers-Gibbs.

"The outlook revision on the underlying rating reflects the district's return to stable operations in fiscal years 2023 and 2024 and improved reserves," explained Skyers-Gibbs. "The rating also reflects the application of our criteria, 'Methodology For Rating U.S. Governments,' published Sept. 9, 2024, on RatingsDirect."

Skyers-Gibbs continued. "The district's full-faith-and-credit, unlimited-tax GO pledge secures series 2025 and existing bonds. The series 2025 bonds are the third and final issuance that officials intend to use bond proceeds to complete the construction and furnishing of a new elementary school.

"Therefore, The long-term rating reflects our view of the district's participation in the Michigan State School Bond Loan Fund program."

To put this announcement into laymen's terms, Allegan Public Superintendent James Antoine explained, "This [upgrade] came about due to the impending sale of the final (series three) bonds from the 2021 voter approved bond issue. Each time a district goes to sell bonds, there is an extensive process to establish a district's credit rating. They look at many factors to determine the final result. These include district financial factors as well as those related to the broader local economy."

The questions related to determining a credit rating were described as "a dense eight pages," so to summarize, Antoine continued, "From the district perspective over the past few years, we have been able to strategically use Covid Relief Funds and other state grant funds to take pressure off of the general fund, thus allowing us to improve our financial reserves, [aka] fund balance. We also monitor our staffing levels annually to ensure that appropriate adjustments are made to match our staff numbers to our student population, which allows us to be fiscally responsible while still meeting the needs of our students."

Antoine then gave credit to the residents of the Allegan Public School District. "Additionally, the voter approved the sinking fund in May of 2022, which is another huge reason for the improved rating, albeit indirectly. The sinking fund allows us to complete facility projects and purchase technology that would have otherwise come out of general fund dollars. We are so fortunate to have the sinking fund which could not have happened without the support of our amazing community."

To summarize from the S&P perspective, "The stable outlook reflects our expectation that given the district's practice of prudent budget management, officials will continue to make the necessary budgetary adjustments to achieve balanced-to-positive operating results and reserves will be maintained at current levels or improve," added Ms. Skyers-Gibbs.

For more information, all ratings referenced can be found on S&P Global Ratings' public website at www.spglobal.com/ratings.

Superintendent Antoine continues to thank the school staff and members of the Allegan community for their assistance in making the Allegan Public Schools a great place for students to receive a high quality education as they move into becoming community leaders.

Alpaca Fest returns to Allegan Fairgrounds

By Gari Voss

Alpaca Fest returns to the Allegan County Fairgrounds to celebrate its 27th anniversary and will be open to the public on Sat., April 12 from 8:30am-5pm and Sun., April 13, 2025, from 8:30am-2pm. Visitors can enter at no charge and enjoy family-friendly competition among over 150 alpacas.

Artisans will have numerous fleece products for sale plus demonstrations on techniques.

Included in the events is the wonderful costume competition where handlers and their alpaca dress to a theme. Creativity runs high as youth through adults present their projects.

Included is the MI-Mitten Meltdown. Termed their Flagship Show, the competition will include Halter Classes, Novice Classes, Bred and Owned, Walking Fleece, Youth and Production Classes. All experience levels of alpaca raisers and showers are encouraged to participate from Small Breeders to Bred and Owned classes.

For additional information on the festival or raising alpaca, visit https://mialpacafest.com/.

Fennville library parking lot under construction

Renovations of the parking lot at the Fennville District Library are set to begin mid-April. During this construction, parking will not be available at the library, though the library will remain open and operational during its standard hours. The main entrance will be temporarily closed for the duration of construction, but patrons will be able to enter and exit the building from a door facing the Allegan Credit Union.

Additionally, four designated spots will be available in the Allegan Credit Union's parking lot for patrons who need accessible parking, are receiving curbside service, or who are visiting for ten minutes or less. All other patrons will need to park elsewhere and walk to the library, unless outside of the Credit Union's business hours, in which case they can park anywhere in their parking lot.

This renovation project is partially funded through a grant provided by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. A renovation of the library's 36-year-old parking lot will serve multiple purposes to make it more friendly to library patrons.

When designing the new parking lot, two of the library's primary concerns were safety and accessibility. The parking lot as-is offers only one designated accessible parking spot for people with disabilities, which does not meet the needs of the community. Safety was also a primary concern for both drivers and pedestrians, especially in consideration of the drive that currently abuts the main doors where there have been close calls with children rushing out of the doors without looking for traffic. Other concerns are environmental, such as the new storm drain that needs to be installed and erosion, and the future longevity of the parking lot.

If you have any questions about the library's parking lot construction, you can reach out via email at info@fennvillelibrary.org or by phone at (269) 561-5050.

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- **Breakfast Pizza** (Cheese Sauce, Mozzarella and Cheddar Cheese, Scrambled Egg, Pick One: Ham, Bacon, Sausage, Chorizo, Hamburger)
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Seed Fair drew gardeners from the Allegan area

By Gari Voss

The Allegan Food Alliance invited gardeners from novice to experts to visit the 2nd Annual Seed Fair at the Allegan District Library on Saturday, April 5, 2025, gather free seeds, learn about other efforts in Allegan County that promote gardening and planting native plants, and attend workshops.

Also available was Brian Talsma from the Allegan Conservation District. For those wishing to order shrubs and trees, the Spring Sale is in full progress. Customers can choose from a variety of firs and pines, plus black walnut, common persimmon, red mulberries, sugar maple, white oak, and blueberry bushes. Order forms can be located at https://www.alleganced.org/store, and pick up will be Sat., April 26, 2025, at the new office, 2412 Taft Road, Allegan. For additional information, contact Allegan.admin@macd.org or 269 941-6165.

A wonderful treasure was learning about the Leighton Library tucked up by Moline at 4451 12th Street. Librarian Justine Wiegers received a grant to begin a seed library plus a community garden on the library grounds. Currently, the library is hosting Busy Bee Days that will begin at 6pm May 14, 2025, and continue from June-August for open gardening. In addition, Growing Gardeners! invites children to come from 10:30-11:30am to explore and take care of the Children's Garden and enjoy nature-based books and activities. This begins May 30, 2025 and continues through the summer. To learn more about the activities, visit https://www.leightonlibrary.org/ or contact Justine at justinew@leightonlibrary.org.

Upstairs in the conference room, workshops were available on Soil Health and Basics that could rejuvenate "tired" gardens, Seed Starting & Garden Essentials that would start stronger plants, and Small Space & Container Gardens for those who thought limited space would exclude growing fresh vegetables or flowers.

The day culminated in a simply delicious soup supper at the Good Shepherd Church with soup, bread and homemade cookies laced with conversations about gardening – successes and challenges.

For those who missed the Seed Fair and would like to know more about the Food Alliance or pick up seeds, contact Mary Colborn at maryacolborn@gmail.com.

Gardeners from across the Allegan area perused seeds on tables laden with trays during the Allegan Food Alliance's 2nd Annual Seed Fair at the Allegan District Library on Sat., Apr. 5th. Visitors not only found seeds, but learned about the Allegan Conservation District and Leighton Township Library, and attended workshops while children created art projects using seeds. Photos: Michael Pigeon & G. Voss

Subject chased through Allegan, Van Buren Counties

By Jordan Wilcox
Assistant Publisher

On Monday, April 7th at 2:27 pm, police radioed that they were looking for a wanted subject out of Northern Michigan, whose phone was last pinged on I-196 between Decatur and South Haven.

The Allegan County Sheriff's Office/Michigan State Police rapidly located him and attempted to make a traffic stop, but the subject began to flee. They were unclear as to why he fled and what he was wanted for, but began to suspect he was armed.

Law enforcement lost visual on the subject, but shortly after found his vehicle behind Jars Cannabis off Blue Star Highway in Fennville, south of Douglas. However, he wasn't in it.

Multiple officers set up a perimeter on I-196 and Blue Star, and the K-9 units were called in to help locate the subject. But it did not work.

A few minutes later, the subject called the police department, confirmed he ran from the Allegan County Sheriff's Office/Michigan State Police, stated he would turn himself in tomorrow, and then hung up.

Police were unhappy at this point and requested help from the Hamilton Fire Department's Drone Team.

The drones located a subject matching the male's description in Jar's parking lot, who law enforcement quickly held at gunpoint.

At 2:54, less than 30 minutes after the initial call, the subject was confirmed to be the wanted man from Northern Michigan. He was immediately taken into custody and will be evaluated for minor lacerations he had on his hands.

NOTE:

This article was compiled entirely from a recent transcript of police radio activities, and the situation is still developing. Lots of information and context was unfortunately left out because at the time of publication (Tuesday morning) no official reports have been released by any law enforcement agencies. Hopefully more will come out and Wilcox Newspapers can provide an update.

Kayakers rescued from Kalamazoo River

Two people were rescued from the Kalamazoo River after their kayak tipped over Sunday afternoon, according to the Allegan County Sheriff's Office

ACSO was alerted of the kayakers at about 5:20 p.m. and the water rescue happened in the 1100 block of 32nd Street in Trowbridge Township.

Authorities said that the kayakers were on the Kalamazoo River when they hit a downed log and their kayak tipped over.

Both of the kayakers were located and treated for minor injuries and cold exposure, ACSO said.

The sheriff's office is warning people to avoid going in the Kalamazoo River right now due to high water levels, cold water temperatures and downed trees from the recent storms.

ALLEGAN COUNTY DELEGATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

ACDOGE

Is someone getting rich off of your taxes?
Are your tax dollars being spent wisely?

Allegan County Delegation of Efficiency (ACDOGE), is making sure local government isn't wasting our money.
ACDOGE volunteers are a small businesses owners, accountants, electricians, plumbers, builders and housewives.
People who want to make a positive change locally.

Find out more join ACDOGE volunteers
Date: Friday April 11th
Time: 6pm
Where: The Trestle Stop 3366 M-40, Hamilton MI
Or contact ACDOGE website: acdoge.org

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We're thrilled to introduce our quarterly newsletter, celebrating the attractions and experiences that make Allegan County a special destination. No matter the season, you can always play, shop, taste, stay, and experience Allegan County!

https://www.allegancounty.org/departments/parks-recreation-and-tourism

Additionally we are always looking for your Feedback - Please take the survey to help better serve Allegan County!

Community Events

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!
It is a super busy weekend and beyond!

Now-Fri., May 2, 2025: Allegan Spring Spruce Up
City residents may place leaves and brush at the street's edge for pick up. After May 2, waste should be dropped at the Dept. of Public Works facility on Airway Dr. Go to https://www.cityofallegan.org/departments/residential_services.php for additional information.

Wed., Apr. 9, 2025: Allegan Co. Leadership Program participants, be sure to REGISTER TODAY for the Poverty Education Workshop that will be April 17, 2025, 9:30am-Noon at the Griswold.

Fri., Apr. 11, 2025: Order tickets for the 17th Annual Safe Harbor Lifeline Gala
The Silo 1071 32nd St. Allegan
Register at development@safeharborcac,org by April 11th.

Sat., Apr. 12, 2025, 10am-4pm: Art in the Garden
The Silo 1071 32nd St. (M040) Allegan

Sat., Apr. 12 (8am-5pm) – Sun., Apr. 13, 2025 (8am-2pm): MI Alpaca Fest & MI-Mitten Meltdown
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan

Sun., Apr. 13, 2025, 2-4pm: Cabin Fever Reliever 2025 - Ellis & M.E.
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan

Mon., Apr. 14, 2025, Noon: Pinwheel Garden Planting
Safe Harbor CAC 404 Sherman St. Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Tues., Apr. 8, 2025, 5:30pm: Rank MI Vote: Allegan Town Hall
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Join your fellow citizens at a Town Hall for a presentation of the problems with our current voting system and Rank MI Vote's ambitious plan for the solution: Ranked Choice Voting.

Wed., Apr. 9, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Instrument Zoo – Drop in and learn about string & percussion instruments that KSO use.
2pm: Recess for Adults. – Enjoy time with friends from Arc of Allegan County. Craft, play games and converse.
3:30pm: Unicorn Party! – Ages 0-7 can come and celebrate unicorns with fun stories, silly songs & crafts.

Thurs., Apr. 10, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30 am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 yr. olds & caregivers can hear stories and enjoy activities with Help Me Grow Allegan.
6:00pm: VITA Volunteer Information Session – Learn how to provide local tax assistance.

Fri., Apr. 11, 2025, 11am: Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Some of the Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary reptiles are coming to the library.

Fri., Apr. 11, 2025, 4-9pm: Cocktail & Appetizer Trail
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Fri., Apr. 11, 2025, 4:30-8pm: Fish FRYday
LYNX Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego
Enjoy fried pollack, fries, coleslaw & bread.

Sat., Apr. 12, 2025, 8am-3:30pm: Waste & Recycling
Allegan Public Works 691 Airway Dr. Allegan
Residents can prove residency then fill dumpsters with waste and recycling.

Sat., Apr. 12, 2025, 10am-4pm: Art in the Garden
The Silo 1071 32nd St. (M040) Allegan
A celebration of art, nature, and community featuring a juried artists' market, performing arts, poetry readings, dance recitals, music, and workshops for all ages. Check https://www.alleganarts.com/ for details.

Sat., Apr. 12 (8am-5pm) – Sun., Apr. 13, 2025 (8am-2pm): MI Alpaca Fest & MI-Mitten Meltdown
Allegan Co. Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan
Alpaca Show and Fiber Festival certified by AOA featuring 2 Halter shows, Walking Fleece, Small Breeder, Youth Obstacle and Showmanship, Get of Sire, Produce of Dam, Breeder's Best Three, Photo Contest, and Vendor Event.

Sun., Apr. 13, 2025, 10am: Palm Sunday Services
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan

Sun., Apr. 13, 2025, 2-4pm: Cabin Fever Reliever 2025 - Ellis & M.E.
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
K'zoo Folklife/Allegan Chapter & the City of Allegan welcome all to enjoy Ellis & M.E. Beer, wine and other refreshments will be available. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Mon., Apr. 14-Fri., Apr. 18, 2025, 7am-2:30pm: Waste & Recycling
Allegan Public Works 691 Airway Dr. Allegan
Residents can prove residency then fill dumpsters with waste and recycling.

Mon., Apr. 14, 2025, Noon: Pinwheel Garden Planting
Safe Harbor CAC 404 Sherman St. Allegan
All are invited to plant a pinwheel for child abuse awareness, followed by a facility tour and light lunch. No RSVP, free and open to the public. www.safeharborcac.org.

Mon., Apr. 14, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack – Bring your own craft and enjoy conversation & snacks.
6pm: Michigan History with Mark Lovett. The discussion will be The Plundering of the American Forest. All are welcome.

Mon., Apr. 14, 2025, 5pm: Wayland Union Schools Pool Groundbreaking
Wayland Union High 870 Superior St. Wayland
All are invited to the official groundbreaking ceremony of the WUS Pool Facility that was made possible through efforts of the Wayland community and key stakeholders.

Mon., Apr. 14, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
The Bear & Fox Yarn Den 141 Brady St. Allegan
All are welcome to drop in for a casual evening of fun stitching in The Den! Bring your crochet, knit, embroidery- whatever fiber art and enjoy some fellowship!

Tues., Apr. 15, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime for 0-2 year olds.
3:30pm: Discover 4H with MSU Extension

Wed., Apr. 16, 2025, 6:30pm: Pub Quiz
Tantrick Brewing Co Hubbard St. Allegan
Registration begins at 5:30. Bring a library card for extra points then answer questions.

Thurs., Apr. 17, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 2-5 year olds will enjoy stories & activities.
3:30pm: Mission to Space with the Air Zoo. 5th-8th graders can investigate how aerospace engineers use rockets and spaceplanes to tackle the challenges of space. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Apr. 17, 2025, 6pm: Maundy Thursday Services
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Get enveloped in the story of Jesus' Last Supper. All are welcome.

Thurs., Apr. 17, 2025, 4-6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
The LYNX Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego
The Allegan Area Chamber and the Allegan Jaycees collaborate for fun networking.

Fri., Apr. 18, 2025, 4-9pm: Cocktail & Appetizer Trail
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Fri., Apr. 18, 2025: Good Friday Services
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Noon: Noon day prayers followed by Stations of the Cross – Jesus' journey from arrest to crucifixion.
6pm: Good Friday Litany
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan
3pm: Good Friday Service

Fri., Apr. 18, 2025, Apr. 18, 2025, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
The Tweens & Teens take over the library after hours to explore virtual reality, 3-D printing, and video games with friends and snacks. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Apr. 18, & Sat., Apr. 19, 2025, 10am: Book Bag Sale
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Allegan Friends of the Library will help you fill a bag for a donation to support library programs and materials.

Sat., Apr. 19, 2025, 8am-3:30pm: Waste & Recycling
Allegan Public Works 691 Airway Dr. Allegan
Residents can prove residency then fill dumpsters with waste and recycling.

Sat. Apr. 19, 2025, 10am-Noon: Kids Summer Discovery Fair
Griswold 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Come and learn about the many summer activities for kids around Allegan.

Sat., Apr. 19, 2025, 10am-1pm: Earth Day Community Clean Up
Check in at Sassy Olive on Locust St. Get a bag of goodies and receive an area to clean. Come back with "look what we did" photos and learn where to put the trash. Turn in your old sassy headbands for fabric recycling & get a coupon for 20% off in-store redeemable day of event. Retold Recycling turns fabric waste into insulation.

Sat., Apr. 19, 2025, 11am-1pm: Annual Easter Eggstravaganza
Jaycee Park 200 Monroe St. Allegan
11am: pictures with the Easter Bunny; Noon: the Easter Egg Scramble sponsored by the Allegan Jaycees. Ages 0-2, 3-4, 5-7 and 8-12.

Sun., Apr. 20, 2025, 10am: Easter Services
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan
Join in the celebration of the glorious resurrection of Jesus. Services are followed by an Easter Egg Hunt.

Mon, Apr. 21, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
Bear & Fox Yarn Den Brady St. Allegan
Drop in for a casual evening of fun stitching. Bring your crochet, knit, embroidery – whatever fiber art and enjoy the conversation.

Thurs., Apr. 24, 2025, 6pm: 17th Annual Lifeline Gala
The Silo 1071 32nd St. Allegan
Hosted by Safe Harbor, Child Advocacy Center, an evening to raise awareness and funds to support victims of child abuse and neglect in the community. Register at development@safeharborcac,org by April 11th.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

THE REGENT THEATRE
211 Trowbridge St., Allegan
www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737
MINECRAFT MOVIE
APRIL 4
Rated PG
Friday, April 11 - Thursday, April 17
7pm Feature • $5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • $4
DAILY SPECIALS
Tuesdays- 25 cent Popcorn
FLASHBACK FRIDAY!
Fast Times at Ridgemont High • April 25 @ 9:30pm • $5

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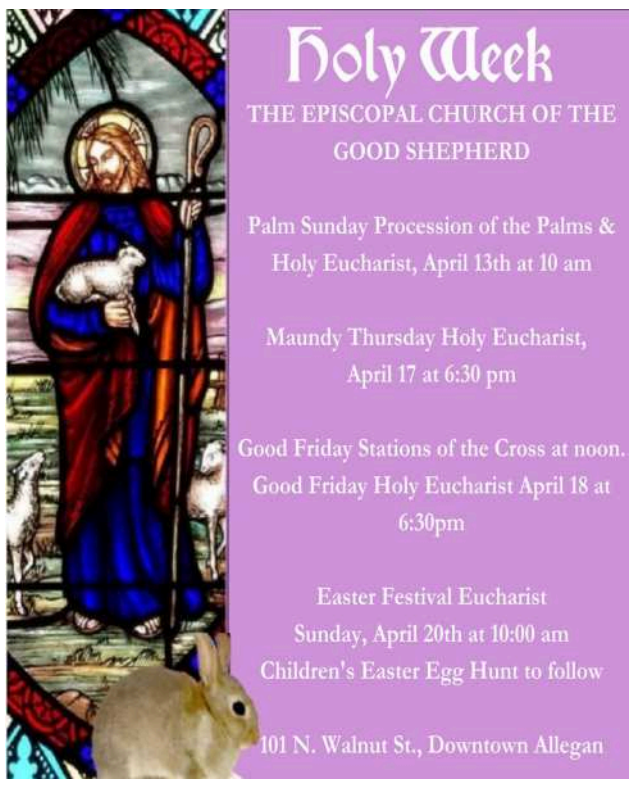
Holy Week
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Palm Sunday Procession of the Palms & Holy Eucharist, April 13th at 10 am
Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist, April 17 at 6:30 pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross at noon.
Good Friday Holy Eucharist April 18 at 6:30pm
Easter Festival Eucharist
Sunday, April 20th at 10:00 am
Children's Easter Egg Hunt to follow
101 N. Walnut St., Downtown Allegan

Housing Summit to address needs in Allegan County

By Gari Voss

The Multi-Agency Collaborative Council (MACC) coordinated by the Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF) has been busy seeking ways to improve the networking between the organizations and nonprofits that work to improve the quality of life for residents across Allegan County. Before beginning huge projects, the MACC organized itself into groups that would explore different avenues to meet identified needs.

The results of the 2023 Allegan County Housing Assessment (ACHA), that was conducted by an outside source, assisted in determining housing needs. ACCF moved forward to establish the Allegan County Housing Initiative. A network of developers, government and nonprofit leaders, and advocates who used the results of the reports to solidify what they knew – housing is a priority across the county. It is time to take action.

With the belief that networking and collaboration could bring about an effective and sustainable difference, the MACC also examined the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) that was done to gain information from the residents and stakeholders across Allegan County. Information gained from the CHNA pinpointed needs which included safe, affordable housing.

To delve into the housing need, the Allegan County Community Foundation and the City of Allegan are collaborating on a Housing Summit to be held on April 25, 2025, from 8:30-12:00 at the Griswold Auditorium, 401 Hubbard St., Allegan, MI.

The morning will be chock full of opportunities to listen, reflect, and prepare to move forward. The program will consist of three short sessions designed to inform and encourage local elected leaders and municipal staff in seeking ways to address and alleviate the 6,200-unit housing shortage that exists in the county.

The featured presentations will focus on the current state of development timelines and construction costs, the new definitions of 'affordable housing', and how subtle changes to zoning and master plans can create housing momentum. The morning will conclude with a session on the new MI State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) Brownfield TIF (Tax Increment Financing) credit that was passed in 2023 to assist in creating affordable housing, especially for seniors and lower income families.

To ensure that the sessions are specific to Allegan County, the presenters are all local professionals working in the field or professionals who have recently worked on projects inside Allegan County.

A registration link for the event can be found at the Allegan County Community Foundation website, https://alleganfoundation.org/housing/.

For additional information about the Allegan County Housing Summit 2025, contact Chris Kleinjans at ckleinjans@alleganfoundation.org or Mohamed Gabow at mgabow@cityofallegan.org.

Information on MSHDA can be located at https://www.michigan.gov/mshda.

Echo Point Shooting Range to remain closed for site improvements

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Echo Point Shooting Range in Allegan County, which has been closed for the winter season, will remain closed until June 27 to allow for construction projects aimed at improving accessibility and shooting structures. The site, located within Allegan State Game Area, is gated and will be posted closed until June 27 or further notice.

Range improvements will include upgraded accessible walkways and reconstruction of earthen berms and target line structures. The berm work will allow the previously closed 10-yard pistol range to reopen.

These improvements are made possible, in part, by the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Fund through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

An alternative shooting location is the DNR Barry County Shooting Range, located in Rutland Township, on Chief Noonday Road/M-179, approximately 0.8 miles west of South Whitmore Road. The Barry County Shooting Range will open for the season Thursday, April 24, with public hours Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Both Echo Point and Barry County will be reopening as staffed shooting ranges, which will involve a change in open hours. The previously unstaffed ranges were open to the public seven days a week. Moving forward, both locations – along with all other DNR-staffed shooting ranges – will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday and will be closed the first Thursday of each month (except October and November) and for State of Michigan holidays.

Learn more about DNR shooting ranges at Michigan.gov/ShootingRanges.

Notice

of Public Accuracy Test
For the May 6, 2025 Special Election
County of Allegan, State of Michigan

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF SALEM TOWNSHIP:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 6, 2025 Special Election has been scheduled for: Tuesday April 15, 2025
All Precincts and Counting Boards for Salem Township

SALEM TOWNSHIP HALL
3003 142ND AVE
Burnips, MI 49314

THE ACCURACY TEST is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the election count the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Renee Busscher, Clerk
Salem Township

Abandoned Wells

Got one?

The Allegan Wellhead Protection Program is looking for abandoned, unplugged wells.

Abandoned, unused, unplugged wells threaten groundwater resources and public health. Contaminants from the surface such as fertilizers, pesticides or other run off water, can easily move downward through the unsealed, abandoned well and enter the aquifer. These contaminants may end up in your drinking water well, your neighbors well or the local community drinking water wells.

The City of Allegan would like to identify any abandoned, unplugged wells in and around its wellhead protection zone and explore having them plugged. The zone extends east from the city of Allegan along the north side of M-222 east to 24th St.

If you are the owner of the abandoned, unplugged well and would like assistance in plugging the well. Please contact Allegan Water Utilities at 269-686-1117 or by emailing to Doug Sweeris at dsweeris@cityofallegan.org

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141 BRADY ST, ALLEGAN
269.355.1011

ALLEGAN COUNTY
Senior Services
Independence Through Transportation Services
Senior Transportation
Seniors who no longer feel comfortable driving can access this service for medical, legal appointments, shopping, and errands. Depending on mobility needs, transportation is available on wheelchair-accessible buses or through volunteer drivers who assist with home entry, exiting, and carrying packages.
Call 269-686-5164 to arrange for this service. Please allow 3-5 business days advance notice for scheduling.
If you or a family member is in need of support services please visit: www.allegancounty.org/Referral or call: (269) 673-3333

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Viewpoints

Measles comeback? Stop the hysteria

MIKE'S MUSINGS

Mike Wilcox

■ Publisher ■

I keep receiving emails from public health officials about the threat of measles. Just like a week ago, I read a release that announced two cases of measles had been diagnosed in Michigan. I had thought measles were a thing of the past and was surprised to hear that they had made a return.

I know measles are highly contagious and can turn into pneumonia for children under five. Two children under 5 died supposedly of measles a week ago in Texas. I also understand that to enroll in most pre-school or any public school you must be vaccinated against measles and chicken pox. I think these vaccines for young children are a good thing.

Back in the day that wasn't the case. When I was growing up, parents for the most part weren't upset if you contracted measles or chicken pox. In fact, many wanted their children to contract the disease so that once you had it, you were immune from it for the rest of your life. Another thought at that time was the older you contracted the virus, the more it would affect you.

The thought was the same with tonsilitis. You were encouraged to have your tonsils pulled early in life, because later it could be quite painful and bothersome. That's what happened to me. My tonsils had to be pulled when I was sixteen, and I'm telling you I didn't recover for several weeks. In fact, I lost 20 pounds in the process.

Myself and my brother and sisters all had measles and chicken pox, and even mumps. Our parents did the responsible thing by keeping us out of school for a week or so. I remember being very bored. I wasn't necessarily sick or in pain, but I had been diagnosed, so school was not an option.

I don't know anyone who encountered complications, despite all my friends and family contracting the virus. But I guess back then was different. We weren't as cautious or afraid of viruses like today's parents and children.

And of course, we didn't have the vaccine which is now required so it is now virtually impossible to get measles, or so I thought. If you listen to public health gurus it is making a comeback- a whole two cases have been diagnosed in Michigan and we must all take preventative steps.

Sorry I'm not buying it, and I know I will catch hell from the medical community for saying it. But as COVID proved, and now Bird Flu, we don't need public hysteria over the latest and greatest virus. They will always come along, and may be a problem for unhealthy individuals, but for most of us, we needn't be concerned.

I would much prefer we concentrate as a people to become healthier. Eating right and partaking in some form of exercise will go a long way in combatting viruses. We subject our children to a wide array of pills to combat this or that. Those medications can help in moderation, but Pfizer and other big Pharma companies, have made them a part of our daily routine. We must become healthier and viruses like measles will not be a concern.

Eat healthy, exercise, and stop taking pills. That's the recipe for a winning health portfolio.

Life as Performance Art

G Corwin Stoppel

We keep hearing snippets and rumors about the Administration selling off the US Post Office as another cost-cutting measure. Maybe it is a true story; maybe not; maybe it is an idea that was sent out to see what our reaction will be.

On the whole, I think it is a completely goofy idea, and for a lot of reasons. The first is that it is rarely wise to sell off capital assets. Like many others, my father preached the gospel of never selling capital assets or invading principle. Assets and principle are meant to earn more money for the owner, and in turn, they can be passed down to the next generation. Along with it, he believed that one should never sell land. Make the land work for you and provide an income and pass it on to the next generation. My father's exception to this practice was when he bought a farm or business specifically as a short-term investment.

We saw what happened in Chicago when they sold off some of their capital assets to take care of a budget short fall. They sold the rights to collect money from the parking meters and some of the toll roads. It took care of their budget problems for a while, but then the government went through their windfall and were worse off than before.

All in all, selling off the USPS just doesn't make good long term financial sense. To be sure, it will pay off some long-term debts and raise money, but in no time it will be gone and with very little to show for it.

The other problem with selling the USPS to a private company is that the mail will not be under government control, but a board of directors whose primary focus is to make money for investors and shareholders. When Chicago leased the toll roads, the investors immediately jacked up the prices.

It will be similar to what we see with many of our newspapers. West Michigan had several big and mid-sized independently owned daily newspapers. One by one, many of them were bought by investors, as were some of the national papers such as the Chicago Tribune.

Almost instantly, the quality of the newspaper noticeably deteriorated. The quality of the paper diminished, and more and more of the articles were written by national or regional news services such as MLive. These syndicated articles replaced the platoons of reporters and photographers who would chase down stories, often of local interest. The staff shrunk down to a skeleton crew. That is not good for a community or region. It is also one reason I admire and appreciate Mike Wilcox and his son Jordan. They were working to keep the local weekly newspapers viable.

As I wrote, this is what is very likely going to happen to the postal service if it is sold. Contracts with long-service employees will be renegotiated, there will be buy-outs of others, and hard earned and won benefits such as insurance and pensions will be whittled away. All of that, in addition to the initial outlay to buy the entire operation, is going to be expensive. The owners will want to recoup their losses and show a profit.

If this goes through, want to take one guess who is going to be stuck for the tab on this? My guess is that it will not be the billionaire oligarchs. It is going to be you and me, same me as always. In the nicest of terms, the new company will explain their efficiency plans to reduce services and hours, and post office branches. Just keep telling yourself that the cutbacks will make everything so much better.

After that, we will get the sucker punch when they raise the price of stamps. I am sure they will because one reason that the USPS is in deep barnyard organic financial fertilizer is that we are not sending as much first class mail as we did before the Internet. As one employee explained it, "Well, it works like this: People aren't sending as much mail, so we have to keep raising the cost of the stamps." Many of us will use the internet even more, and the price of stamps will continue to increase.

The cost of stamps is not the big concern. There is something more worrying.

Right now, when you and I mail a letter it is a violation of federal law for anyone to tamper with the mail, open your envelope and go on a snooping expedition. No one gets to do that, especially the employees of the USPS, without a court order and warrant to look for specific contents. There are exceptions, of course, most notably at jails and prisons. During wartime, censorship of soldier's mail was implemented to protect vital information.

A little over a century ago, in the midst of World War Two, there was some serious discussion in upper levels of government on how to handle the Zimmerman Telegram from Germany to the President of Mexico. The British got hold of the document, hesitated about opening it, read the letter and decided to snitch to President Wilson about the contents. Germany was plotting with the President of Mexico to invade the US in return for a hefty pay-off.

However, if the USPS is sold, the new private owner can make their own rules, and privacy might become even more a thing of that past. In dictatorships, anyone writing or receiving mail that contains a message opposite to the government's official line, is in serious jeopardy.

Now, if that is what you want, and you believe that any or all of this is in your best interests, write your beliefs to your elected officials.

My father taught something else that ties in with the possibility of selling the USPS. He said it takes money to make money, and you have to invest in yourself because the older you get the harder you have to work to look good. Do not be so cheap that you neglect to spend money on yourself that will help you make more money.

That same principle, as I see it, applies to the federal government. I am all in favor of reducing stupid expenses and waste, but not important ones. It takes a lot of money to have a good government that does good by its people. Support for the elderly, those who are disabled, for schools, hospitals, and are not merely 'entitlements' - it is how we care for our fellow citizens. That includes the post office. If we want a good country it is going to take some of our good, hard-earned cash to pay for it. That includes the mail service.

That's the way this country has always operated. We didn't look for the cheapest way to build up our nation. On the frontier, pioneer families taxed themselves and built the one room schools and hired the teachers. The same thing happened when a community needed what became known as 'cottage hospitals' or almost anything else. Our predecessors worked together and looked forward.

We could use a bit more of their spirit today. Perhaps, before someone hammers a For Sale sign in front of the Post Office, our best and brightest minds should look at how it can be reformed and improved, rather than selling it off.

Reform, not revolution or smashing things with a hammer, is how we, as individuals, and a country move forward.

Letters to the Editor

Reader takes exception to editor's opinion

Dear Editor:

Nuclear Energy is Back

January 1966- Consumers Power Company, CPC announces the planned construction of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant

May 1971- First Nuclear Chain Reaction at the plant

January 1973- Plant shuts down due to leaks

August 1974- CPC files a $300 million dollar lawsuit against Beecher and others for providing "Defective Equipment"

October 1974- Plant shuts down due to condenser problems.

November 1974- Plant shuts down due to another leak.

December 1974- Plant shuts down due to a small release of radioactive gas.

And the list goes on…….70 more items are listed in the Mlive article from August 24, 2014.

I have been a digital subscriber to the Commercial Record since before your company purchased the paper and believe that supporting the local news is a worth while endeavor. I do take exception to some of the "News Articles" you write that are more Trump Kool-Aid induced Opinion Pieces. Your article on the reopening of the Palisades Plant would fall into that category.

Mike Golobackj

Buying votes is illegal

Dear Editor:

The 18 U.S. Code § 597 - Expenditures to influence voting says: Whoever makes or offers to make an expenditure to any person, either to vote or withhold his vote, or to vote for or against any candidate; and

Whoever solicits, accepts, or receives any such expenditure in consideration of his vote or the withholding of his vote—

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if the violation was willful, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

I have not read nor heard of any censure for Elon Musk's well advertised buying of votes in the Wisconsin judge election. I am wondering why nothing has happened regarding this.

Barbara Marr

Reader appreciates inmate story

Dear Editor:

Thanks so much for the front page article and photo about the seven inmates from Allegan County jail being honored at a graduation ceremony. The Community Reentry Unit program was so well explained. As the sheriff said, "We are very fortunate to have a partnership with Reach the Forgotten Ministries who provide the services." Congratulations to Chaplain Sarah who has been with the jail for ten years now. Thanks to Piper Raab for writing this comprehensive article.

Linda Hemmeke

The Why's In Today's Government

Dear Editor:

The present administration is based on lies, and they get more ludicrous by the day. It is time to call out the lies uttered by our commander-in-chief and his cabinet members. What baffles me most are the why's of statements made proposed policies. How some folks support the totally un American stances our executive branch of government continue to profess.

Why are we vowing to take Greenland from Denmark, seize the Panama Canal, and make Canada our 51st state even though Canada rejects the idea?

Why is Trump bullying President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine and calling him a dictator?

Why does Trump side with China and Iran to block a U.N.'s resolution condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine?

Why does Trump pick a fight with Canada, our friend and ally to the North? Why did he demean Prime Minister Trudeau by calling him Gov. Trudeau?

Why did Trump announce that he would not enforce laws barring bribery of any foreign leader?

Why is Trump cutting food and medical assistance to the poorest people in the world letting these supplies rot in warehouses and on docks? Why does Trump work to help the worst people in society?

Why did Trump pardon January 6 rioters who used weapons like baseball bats and metal wrenches to beat up police officers that left over 15 hospitalized?

Why did Trump make cuts to the IRS that were investigating tax dodging at the countries largest corporations? Why has Trump given high level positions to men who have been accused of sexual misconduct?

Why did Trump fire career prosecutors because they investigated Russian interference with the 2016 election? Was it true?

Why does Trump have dinner and associate with white supremacists, and has described KKK members as 'very fine people'? Conservative journalist David Brooks has called Trump " a make the world safe for gangsters". We have abandoned American values and encouraged moral decay. Why did Trump agree to deport people to Venezuela (many were American citizens) to be put in terrible prisons, and be paid by the U.S.--$5 million dollars as the first installment? Call it what it is--concentration camps. What is becoming of the principles that the U.S. once used?

The fact is Canada is revolting against Trump's tariffs and threats of more tariffs. The tourist industry is declining. Our country used to be a favorite destination for Canadians, but now are afraid of what might happen to them on American soil. If a country uses bullying tactics it will create animosity, just like the playground bully (they lose friends quickly). We are presently losing respect and friendships from our allies, and they are speaking out. We can expect our quality of life to lessen as the economy suffers. As of March 12, 2025 the stock market has lost $4 trillion in value from before tariffs became an issue. Now losses reign in the $7 trillion category. This is not an arbitrary number, it came from experts from wall street

There is a pervasive myth that Republicans are better for the economy than Democrats. Consider the follow: 1. Job growth better with Democrats; 2. S&P 500 better with Democrats; and 3. Nine out of the last 10 recessions occurred with Republicans in power including the last five.

Why did Trump say the U.S. subsidized Canada $200 billion yearly? Not True

Why did Trump say that the U.S. took in billions of dollars from China thanks to tariffs during his first term in office? Not True

Why did Trump say Canada imposed a 250-300% tariff on many dairy products? Not True Why did Trump say that the Great Depression occurred because U.S. officials moved away from tariffs? That was hilarious, but not true.

Why did Trump say that Joe Biden had the worst approval ratings in the history of the country? Not true

***Why did Trump say that Democrats want to cut Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid beneficiaries? That was bonkers! Trump's policies want those things to happen (what a case of projection).

It is time to call out politicians when they use misinformation and lies to further their agendas. LIES MUST STOP.

Mark Austin Hopkins

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

The Allegan County News

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Otsego & Plainwell Union Enterprise

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES
4 P.M. Monday

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Folklife festival comes to life with all day music, art

By Piper Raab

The Allegan Folklife Music Art Festival hosted a jam-packed day of beautiful music and artisans' creations to purchase at Allegan High School, Performing Art Center. Although Saturday, March 29th was a cloudy, chilly, blustery day outside; it was a warm, fun-spirited, joyous day inside AHS. Doors opened for patrons and fans at: 10:00am until 8:00pm.

58 artisans booths filled the PAC Lobby, hallways and cafeteria. Candle makers, jewelry makers, sign makers, rug makers, lotions and creams, crocheters and knitters creations,and wood carpenter crafts to name a few. There were artists' booths of framed art created from precious, polished stones and also fall leaves.

A representative member of the Civil War History and Reenactment Group known as, "Church's Battery D, 1st Michigan's Light Artillery" were offering membership opportunities. This group out of Hastings, MI was in the movie "Gettysburg." Their weaponry utilized: muzzle loaders, parrot rifles and the M1841 Howitzer Cannons. This year commemorates the 160th year Anniversary of the Civil War.

At 10:00am, the morning performances schedule began with 501 Swing Street Band, playing in the Performing Arts Center auditorium featuring several songs, of different artists, from the Swing Jazz Music Era, which was from 1933-1947. Cameron Hachigian, a WMU Teacher Intern for the AHS Band Department played trombone. Brenden Hoekstra, AHS Band Director and founder of the 501 Swing Street Band, based in Grand Rapids, played trumpet. Lindsey Hoekstra was the vocalist. Seth Kane played clarinet and tenor saxophone. Steven Rothstein played guitar. Jarrett Holtlsag played piano. Drew Mayhew played double bass and bass guitar. Mark Mattis played drums.

The AHS Symphonic Band performed Joy, by Frank Techeli and Salvation is Created, by Tschesnokoff, arr. Bruce H. Houseknecht. The 501 Swing Street Band and the AHS Symphonic Band Combined Ensemble played Staircase Spirit, composed by WMU Teacher Intern, Cameron Hachigian. Cameron is from Troy, Michigan and has earned many prestigious awards. He is an avid music teacher.

The Allegan Band Boosters served lunch and dinner in the cafeteria from 11am - 3pm.

From Noon to 4:00pm: the K'Zoo Folklife, "Come & Go" Open Jam Session, performed in the PAC Lobby and Lobby overflow room. Musicians of all ages were welcome to play and learn and was co-hosted by the Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association.

At 11:15am - 12:00pm and 1:00pm - 2:00pm. Twelve members present of the Original Dulcimer Club of Kalamazoo, performed in 2 one hour sessions at Artists Hall. As quoted from Google, "The dulcimer originated from the Middle East in 900 AD and was brought to Europe by the Spanish Moors. It was popular in the Renaissance and Middle Ages, in the 12th Century." The Original Dulcimer's Club of Kalamazoo is devoted to preserving this historical instrument's tradition and education with performances all over Michigan (para-phrased from the Program).

At 11:30am - 12:30pm, Joel Mabus taught the Clawhammer and Banjo workshop. As quoted from the website KalamazooArts.org, "A long time fixture in the American Folk music scene. He's a songwriter with deep roots in tradition, and a risk-taking instrumentalist...He's toured the major folk clubs and festivals all over North America, but is firmly centered in the Mid-West." He is a recording artist and performer. He plays the guitar, fiddle, banjo, and mandoline. Joel specializes in traditional folk tunes and plays bluegrass, blues and his own original songs.

Frank Sprague from the Gun Lake Language and Cultural Center, conducted the workshop on Native American Pow Wow Dance from: 1:30pm - 2:20pm. This workshop took place in the smaller gymnasium and attracted over 100 people of all ages. For the last 9 years, Frank Sprague, has been a Tribal Elder of the Pottawatomi Band. His spirit name is Red Cloud. He has been teaching young people for over 30 years. His companion and fellow dancer is Tammy Wemigwans. She is from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and is a Tribal member of the Zhiibaahsing First Nation Ojibwe, out of Ontario, Canada.

David Sprague's niece, Rose Shawa, is a Tribal member of the Little River Band of Ottawa.

She is 13 years old and is also a Pow Wow dancer. Rose Shawa 's grandparents were in attendance in the gym. Their names are Mary and Philip Shawa and they are from the Little Traverse Bay Band.

The Smokin' Dobroleles

Frank Sprague is a member of the 3 Fires Dance Group. As quoted from his education on Pow Wow dance, to the audience, he continued, "Pow Wows have been going on for about 180 years. They were first introduced in American culture, in Buffalo Bill Shows," in the late 1800's, spanning nearly 30 years. He said, "The dances, the drums, the drum-beats, the Regalia (the costumes), and songs are all very particular for many different reasons. They tell stories and carry prayers to the Creator and are part of an Oral Tradition.

He explained, "We call our Pow Wow outfits "Regalia." They are not costumes. They are our best clothes. Our Regalia are who we are. "

Mr. Sprague spoke about Native American etiquette. He said, "We do not like people (other than our immediate family) to touch our hair and clothes. We also do not like to have our pictures taken without asking first. We find it very offensive and disrespectful. There is a time and place that taking pictures may be allowed. Please ask first, to take pictures of Native American people."

Frank Sprague continued generously, to share knowledge of his people and their customs. "Women are the bosses in our community. Women are very powerful. They are the life givers."

He said, "Our grandparents were shunned, beaten, and whipped for speaking their native language. So, they did not teach us (their children, the next generation) our religion, language and culture. They did not teach us about oral traditions and Pow Wows. They did not want us to go through what they went through. It was illegal to practice our religion."

Frank Sprague explained further, the historical impact and significance of legislation for Native Americans. "The United States Government tried to take away our religion and culture.

A slogan was used to describe what had happened and told to them, at that time. "Kill the Indian, save the boy." On August 10th, 1978, Freedom of Religion was legalized for Native Americans. This was a very important day.

"Our people were originally from the Northeast coast and were advised by their elders to move west, as colonies were moving in their lands. They kept moving west and followed the rivers and waters of the Saint Lawrence Seaway. They settled near the Gun Lake area and were fed by the wild rice that grew in the shallow 99 miles of coast of the lake. The rivers were our highways."

The lessons on Native American dance and Pow Wows, as taught by Frank Sprague were full of a rich history of detailed descriptions. "In the Traditional style of dance, the drum is the "elder." When men hit the drum harder, it is considered an honor beat.

A Mississippi Nation of women were ready to defend their families when all the warriors were gone. That day, a heavy fog came in and no one could be seen. The woman gave the men a special drum that was considered the elder. The women declared for the warriors to stop fighting to kill and war to fight with the drum."

Men's Traditional Dance usually tells stories of hunting and fishing. Women's Traditional Dance usually is slower and more respectful. The Trail of Tears Women's Dance tells the story of blankets that were given by the U.S. Government, when they reached Oklahoma," in 1839. "Soft blankets are held in the woman's left arm, which is closest to her heart. The blankets were full of Small Pox disease. The people were poisoned and many died."

A Women's Traditional Dance is explained: the story of the Jingle Dress. The story is about, "A little girl whose family and tribe members were very sick. They had no food and no medicine. That night, a little girl had a dream that she was wearing a dress made of ice sickles.

The little girl loved the sound and it made her so happy. Jingle dresses were made with 365 cones of metal on each dress. One metal cone for every day of the year of prayers to the Creator. The sound of the dresses made the little girl and all the people so happy; that they all started feeling better." The Jingle Dress Song is danced with a side-step and was demonstrated by the women Pow Wow Dancers.

During the Inter-Tribal Dance portion of the Pow Wow workshop, everyone was invited to come and dance around the drum. The Son's of the 3 Fires Dance Group is part of the Three Fires Confederacy: Ojibwe (Chippewa), Odawa (Ottawa), and Pottawatomi, which makes up the Anishinaabe Alliance, the Niswi-miskodewinan.

The Deerfield Run Country Band performed from: 2:30pm - 3:15 pm, on the main stage, in the auditorium. This Spirited group of musicians produced unique sound blends of: blues-rock with note highlights of country and a dash of funk. These experienced, toe-tapping musicians are from Grand Rapids kicking off a fabulous mid-afternoon groove session.

From: 3:30pm - 4:30pm, an Interactive, Multi-cultural Drum Workshop, was conducted by Dede Adler. Hand drums and percussion instruments were used to create music. Everyone was invited to join in the Drum Circle. Rhythm games, universal rhythm techniques, and specific cultural rhythms were explored.

Into the evening from: 4:30pm - 5:30pm, Master Ukulele Musician, Ben Hassenger, taught the Family Ukulele Workshop. This class provided Ukuleles to practice on, for those who desired to give it a try. Ben is from Lansing, MI and co-founded the Lansing Area Ukulele Group. He teaches students of all ages, including Elderly Music and Interlochen, just to name a few.

From: 5:15pm - 6:00pm, the Smokin Drobroleles performed in the auditorium. As quoted from their band biography, "Forged in family and friendships, this band has the uncanny ability to feed off each other and their audience to create the perfect mix of medicine to cure what ails you...Because each musician has their own musical influences that span across the wide tapestry of music including bluegrass, country, jazz, rock, reggae, hip-hop and blues, the group likewise expresses themselves in a cornucopia of style and sound that is uniquely Smokin Drobrolelesque." Mike Renna plays the ukulele, Abe Kurze plays the guitar and vocals, Brandon Tabor plays the upright Bass and John Ellsworth plays drums.

The Schlitz Creek Bluegrass Band performed from: 6:15pm - 8:00pm, in the auditorium. Nick Deaton plays the banjo and is a Master diesel mechanic. Dave Dekema plays the Martin guitar and is a legendary Jeep climber and software engineer. John Speeter plays the mandolin and is a Township Supervisor, cartoonist and is a Blues guitarist. Nick Griffith is a vocalist and plays the upright Bass. He is the Finance Director at WMU. "This band specializes in a unique variety of bluegrass music that cannot be classified as strictly traditional or progressive. Performing material from bluegrass legends such as the: Dillards, and Flat & Scruggs, the Monkees, Bob Seger, the Beatles, Kenny Rogers, the Bee Gees and Cheap Trick," as quoted from their biography. Playing together for the last 23 years, this band combines music with humor performing at: festivals, concerts, pig roasts, goat rodeos, and honky-tonk bars.

The 2025 Allegan Folklife Music --Art Festival is organized through the efforts of the Allegan Chapter of the K'zoo Folklife Organizationand has received support from the National Endowment of the Arts, the Michigan Arts & Culture Council, the Mignon Sherwood Delano Foundation, the Allegan County Community Foundation, the Ascension Borgess Foundation, and Doctor David Ohmart. There was no entrance fee for the festival. A freewill offering for donations was offered at the entrance table.

Obituaries

Eleanor Mae (Clawson) Milhiem

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Eleanor Mae (Clawson) Milhiem on April 4, 2025, surrounded by her family. Eleanor was born at home in Hopkins, Michigan, on July 26, 1932, to her parents Leonard and Sophia (Nowakowski) Clawson. She would marry Kenneth Milhiem Jr. and share over 62 faithful years of marriage together. Eleanor loved golfing, playing bingo, crocheting, and social hours at Village Inn during breakfast time. She was also a loyal supporter of her grandchildren in all of their sporting events.

Eleanor Mae Milhiem

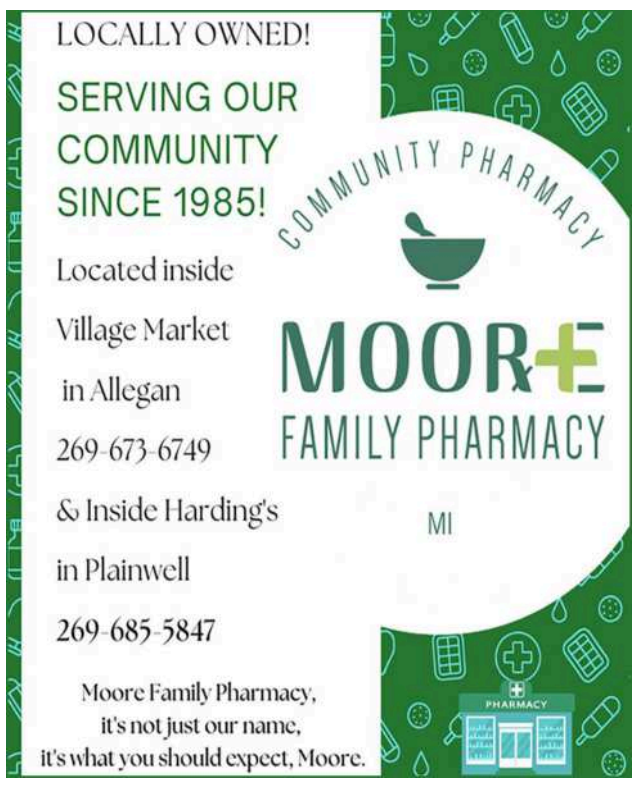
Eleanor also cherished her daily phone call visits with her best friend Dorothy Wilson until her passing last year. She is dearly missed and a bright light to all who knew her.

She is survived by her children Keith Milhiem, Bruce (Sharon) Milhiem, and Christine Milhiem; siblings Norma Wright and Delores Harris; grandchildren Brent (Cari) Milhiem, and Amber Venderville; great-grandchildren Addison Milhiem, Caden Milhiem, Lucas Milhiem, Kennadi Milhiem, and Elliott Vendeville.

She is preceded in death by her parents Leonard and Sophia (Nowakowski) Clawson; siblings Raymond Clawson and Irene Davis; best friend Dorothy Wilson; dog Princess and cat Lola.

Eleanor's funeral service will be at 12:00pm with an hour visitation beforehand on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel, 528 Trowbridge Street, Allegan MI, 49010. Interment to follow at Oakwood Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to either Wings of Hope Hospice Allegan or Wings Home Allegan.



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Alamo Elementary principal Nicole Knight-Lucas became a human slushie to celebrate the schools' students reading more than 200,000 combined minutes. (Photo provided)

Students from Washington Street Elementary finished Reading Month by going to M-89 Cinema to watch "Dog Man," which is based on a popular book series. (Photo provided)

Otsego Public Schools celebrates Reading Month

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

March is National Reading Month.

And as has become tradition, Otsego Public Schools found fun and interesting ways to celebrate.

Highlights included all three of the district's elementary schools—Alamo, Dix Street and Washington Street—hosted author visits.

Alamo Elementary welcomed Ruth Barshaw, author of the Ellie McDoodle Diaries series.

This series follows the adventures of Ellie McDougal, who is known as Ellie McDoodle due to her love of drawing. She records her life in a mix of doodles and diary entries, introducing readers to her family, school, friends and everyday challenges.

Dix Street Elementary had a visit from Sherry Anne Frazier, who wrote the children's book "Tiny Turtle Finds Her Mommy."

This book tells the story of a newborn turtle's journey to find her mother after hatching on the beach. Themes include determination, self-discovery and the love between a parent and a child.

Washington Street Elementary, meanwhile, played host to the wife-husband team of author Karen Brege and illustrator Darrin Brege, whose youth novels include the Mick Morris Myth Solver series.

In the series, Mick is a "brave and curious kid" who travels the world with his cousin Sissy and best friend Nathan. While the trio's parents film a myth-busting TV show, the three friends investigate legendary creatures like Bigfoot and the Lock Ness Monster.

In addition to the author visits, several schools in the district hosted guest readers throughout the month.

Among these readers were members of the Otsego High School National Honor Society and members of the Otsego High School varsity football team.

MHS members read to students at Learn 'n Grow, Washington Street and Dix Street, while the football players shared their reading skills with students at the three elementary schools.

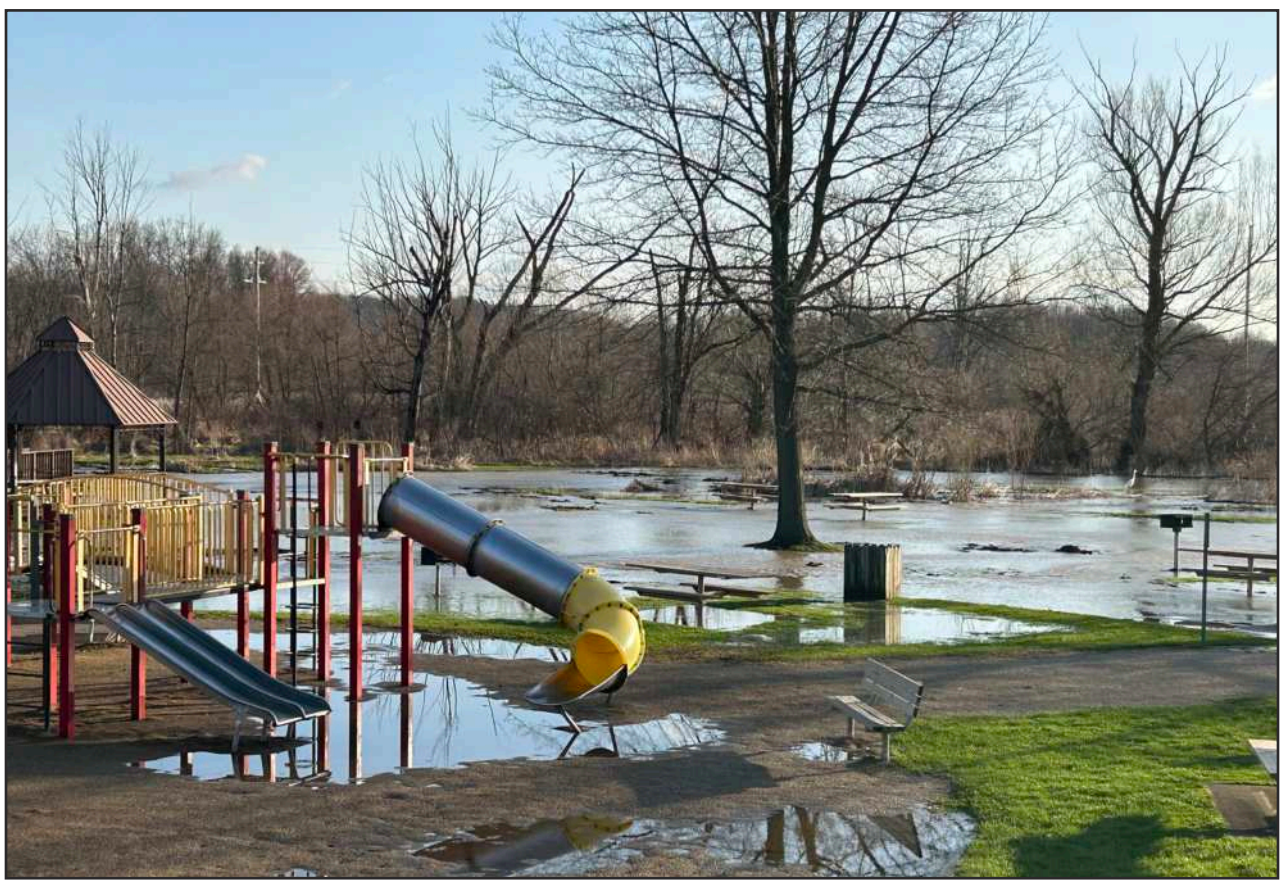
To cap off the month, some schools held special celebrations. This included the entire student body from Washington Street heading to the M-89 Cinema to enjoy the movie "Dog Man," which is based on a book series.

Popcorn and a drink were included for each student, making the experience even more enjoyable.

At Alamo, students met the school-wide goal of reading for more than 200,000 combined minutes. The reward was turning principal Nicole Knight-Lucas into a human slushie.

Otsego High School senior Holton Mulherin, a member of the National Honor Society, reads to a class of elementary students. (Photo provided)

Top readers from classes were chosen to dump or throw a slushie on her at the school's reading month celebration assembly.



Heavy rains flood Brookside Park

After the area experienced heavy rain with a quick-moving storm on Sunday, March 30, more rain showers hit on Wednesday, April 2.

It was so much rain, in fact, that Brookside Park in Otsego transformed into a small lake as the low-lying park was flooded. (Photos by Jason Wesseldyk)

Plainwell Happenings

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PLAINWELL — Downtown Development Manager Siegel at a recent Plainwell meeting said that two city residents, Molly Wright and Barbara Seekman, had submitted applications to join the City's Compensation Commission.

A motion passed confirming the Mayor's appointment of Molly Wright and Barbara Seekman to the Compensation Commission as presented.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed cleaning and lining sewer lines within the City. An RFQ (Request for Quote) was put out, and a sealed bid opening was held on March 3. Plummers Environmental Services was recommended for this project. A motion passed to complete the lining and cleaning project for the City of Plainwell for $183,036.50.

Superintendent Keyser discussed rebuilding the 15+ year old Wilo grit pump. Rebuilding the pump is a fraction of the cost of replacing it, and will provide many more years of service before it needs to be replaced. A motion passed approving the rebuild of the Wilo grit pump by Fixall Electric for $6,640.28.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed the installation of three large water meters which will complete the City-wide water meter change out. Quotes were solicited, and two were received. W Soule was recommended for this project. A motion passed approving the installation of three large water meters by W Soule for $5,320.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed auctioning off unused items and equipment from the DPW. The City has authorized the sale of unused equipment in the past and done well. Proceeds from the sale will have a positive impact on the budget. A motion passed approving the auction of unused equipment and items by the DPW as presented.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, May 6, 2025

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE:

CITY OF OTSEGO & OTSEGO TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 6, 2025, Special Election has been scheduled for:

DATE – Monday, April 28, 2025 - Beginning at 9:00 A.M.

ALL PRECINCTS

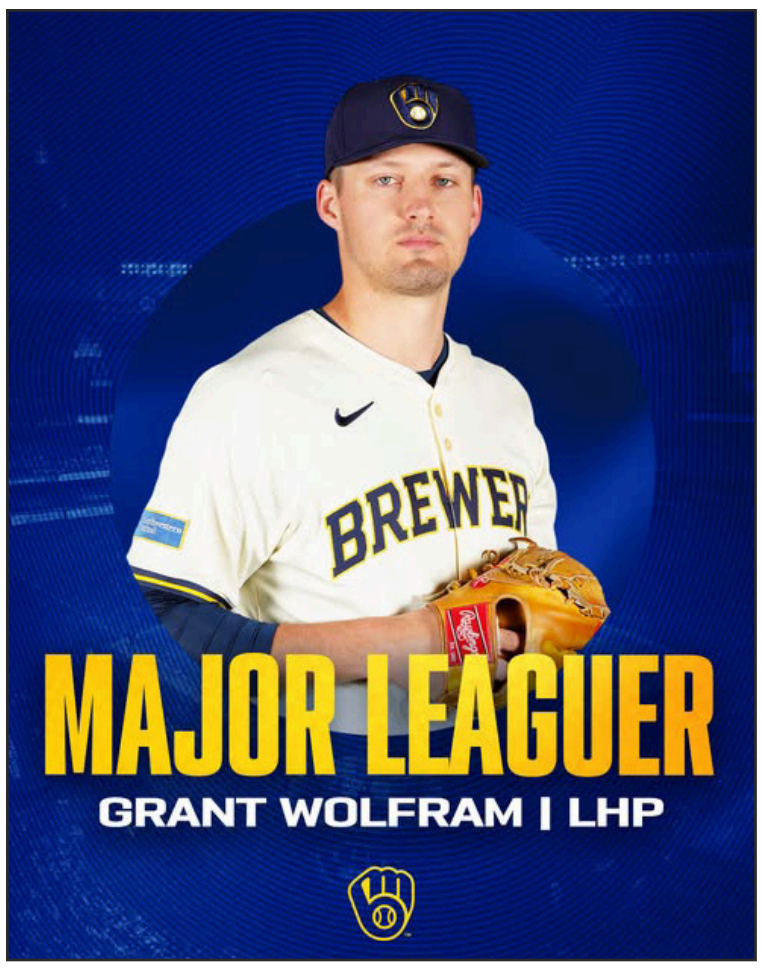
CITY OF OTSEGO	OTSEGO TOWNSHIP
OTSEGO CITY HALL	OTSEGO TOWNSHIP
117 E. ORLEANS ST	400 N 16TH STREET
OTSEGO, MI 49078	OTSEGO, MI 49078

The Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the election count the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Angela Cronen, City Clerk
City of Otsego
Jen Colin, Township Clerk
Otsego Township

B SECTION
The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise
SPORTS
First Place 2012 NNA Better Newspaper Contest Award-winning Newspaper Best Sports Column
Thursday, April 10, 2025

Wolfram called up to Brewers, then traded to Orioles



The Milwaukee Brewers welcomed Grant Wolfram to the Major Leagues with this graphic. The next day, Wolfram was traded to Baltimore. (Graphic courtesy of the Milwaukee Brewers)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MILWAUKEE—It was a whirlwind couple of days for 2015 Hamilton High School graduate Grant Wolfram.

After spending the past six seasons working his way through the various levels of the minor leagues, Wolfram realized his dream of making it to the Major Leagues on Sunday, April 6. That's when the Milwaukee Brewers recalled Wolfram—a 6-foot-7 left-handed relief pitcher—from Triple A Nashville.

Wolfram, who had been in the Texas Rangers farm system before signing with the Brewers in the off-season, joined the team in Milwaukee for its game with the Cincinnati Reds. He took the roster spot of left-handed starting pitcher Nester Cortes, who had been placed on a injured list with a flexor strain in his left elbow.

Although Wolfram didn't appear in the game, the Brewers picked up the 8-2 win over the Reds, whose roster includes Saugatuck High School graduate Blake Dunn, a right-handed-hitting outfielder.

Wolfram's initial taste of the big leagues proved to be a short one, as he was optioned back to Nashville on Monday, April 7.

Later in that day, Wolfram lost his spot on Milwaukee's 40-man roster and was designated for assignment after Milwaukee acquired right-handed pitcher Quinn Priester from the Boston Red Sox.

The Brewers then traded Wolfram to the Baltimore Orioles in exchange for minor league outfielder—and former Detroit Tiger—Daz Cameron and cash considerations.

The Orioles added Wolfram to their 40-man roster and assigned him to Triple-A Norfolk.

To make room for Wolfram on the 40-man roster, Baltimore transferred right-handed pitcher Albert Suarez to the 60-day injured list. Players on the 60-day IL don't need to be on the 40-man roster.

Last season, Wolfram posted a 3.34 ERA with 61 strikeouts in 56.2 innings with Triple-A Round Rock in the Rangers' organization.

In his six minor-league seasons through 2024, he averaged 11 strikeouts per nine innings.

That performance helped him secure a Major League contract with the Brewers this past December.

"Big, athletic lefty," Milwaukee general manager Matt Arnold said after signing Wolfram. "You know we're into that. I think (Wolfram is) probably in the Jared Koenig mold. We've had success with these profiles in the past. (He) had success in Triple-A with Texas.

"(He has some) really good ingredients to work with."

In two relief appearances with Nashville this season, Wolfram allowed two runs on one hit with four walks and three strikeouts in three innings.

Wolfram was originally drafted in the 17th round of the 2015 Major League Baseball by the Detroit Tigers after graduating from Hamilton. He opted not to sign and instead began his collegiate career at Central Michigan University.

After one season at CMU, he transferred to Davenport University, where he racked up a combined 19-6 record during his sophomore and junior seasons. That was enough to catch the attention of the Rangers organization, who selected Wolfram in the 18th round of the 2018 MLB draft.

Wolfram made his professional debut at the rookie-ball level in 2018 before pitching at Single-A in 2019. There was no minor league season in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, and Wolfram was at High-A in 2021 and Double-A in 2022.

The 2023 and 2024 season saw him split time between Double-A Frisco and Triple-A Round Rock.

Dunn earns spot on Cincinnati's opening-day roster

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

CINCINNATI—After getting his first taste of Major League Baseball with the Cincinnati Reds last season, Saugatuck High School graduate Blake Dunn entered spring training battling for a spot on the Reds' opening day roster.

Mission accomplished.

Dunn won a roster spot thanks to a spring performance that included the following numbers: a .340 batting average with two homers, eight RBI and a .404 on-base percentage in 47 at-bats.

"Opening day in Cincinnati is like a holiday," Dunn said after being informed of his spot on the roster by first-year Cincinnati manager Terry Francona. "Everyone in this city is looking forward to opening day, and to be a part of that this year for the first time is incredible.

"Being told in that moment that I made the team, I didn't even know how to react at first. I worked all offseason with the goal in mind to make this team and reaching that goal was incredible."

And while he was excited to make the roster, Dunn was far from "just happy to be there."

"But now it's onto the next goal," he said. "(That's) to help this team win as many games as possible and help get the Reds back into the playoffs."

And Francona believes Dunn can be a big part of helping the Reds win games throughout the season.

According to a tweet from Charlie Goldsmith, a former Reds beat writer with the Cincinnati Enquirer who now covers the team on an independent basis, Francona stated that he doesn't want Dunn to be just a platoon player.

Rather, Francona believes Dunn has "real tools" with his power and his speed, and Francona intends to give Dunn opportunities to show what he can do.

Dunn hit his first home run of the season on Saturday, April 5. It was a solo shot that helped the Reds to the 11-7 win over Milwaukee.

Through Sunday, April 7, Dunn was hitting .167 with the one home run.

Last season, Dunn hit .154 in 26 at-bats with Cincinnati. That included his first career big-league homer, which came off of eventual National League Cy Young Award winner Chris Sale.

Dunn was named the Reds' Minor League Player of the Year for the 2023 season after hitting a combined .312 with a .425 on-base percentage between High-A Dayton (47 games) and Double-A Chattanooga (77 games). He also 23 homers with 79 RBI, 107 runs and 54 stolen bases.

Blake Dunn (59) is congratulated by Cincinnati Reds' third-base coach J.R. House after Dunn his a solo home run against Milwaukee. (Photo courtesy of the Cincinnati Reds)

Otsego softball takes two from Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The cold never bothered me anyway.

That's a line from the hit song "Let It Go," which was featured in the Disney hit movie "Frozen.

And that could also be the motto for the Otsego softball team from its Wolverine Conference doubleheader against archrival Plainwell on Tuesday, April 1.

Because despite some frigid temperatures, the Bulldogs pounded out a total of 32 hits and scored a total of 32 runs in securing wins of 14-0 and 18-2 to complete the sweep.

"It was definitely a cold day, but our bats got hot anyway," Otsego coach Jake Knash said.

Otsego wasted no time in setting the tone for the game.

In the top of the first inning, Cassie Holland led off with a walk and Madi Dendel reached base on a bunt single. RBI singles from Audrey Lingbeek and Maddie Back followed, with Back also eventually scoring to give the Bulldogs a quick 3-0 lead.

In the bottom of the first inning, Lingbeek took to the pitcher's circle for Otsego and struck out the first two batters she faced as part of a 1-2-3 inning.

Lingbeek ended up pitching all seven innings, limiting the Trojans to a pair of singles. Heidi Ragainis had the first of those singles with one out in the third inning, with Emma Preuss collecting the second single with two outs in the seventh inning.

Plainwell's only other base runners came on a pair of fifth-inning walks.

Lingbeek finished with 16 strikeouts. She struck out the side in the second, third and seventh innings.

Offensively, Otsego added three more runs in the second inning, two in the fifth and six in the seventh.

Lingbeek paced five Bulldogs with multiple hits. She went 4-for-5 with a double, two runs and three RBI.

Other standouts for Otsego included Sydneigh Mosher (3-for-4 with a double, a run and an RBI), Mariah Weaver (3-for-4 with two runs), Holland (2-for-3 with a double, two runs and three RBI) and Back (2-for-5 with a run and an RBI).

Sam McDaniel pitched the complete game for Plainwell. She walked five and struck out five.

The Bulldogs carried their momentum into the second game, plating five runs in the top of the first inning.

Holland started the frame with a leadoff singles, Sophie Pierce and Mosher each collected doubles.

Otsego tacked on four runs in the fourth inning before blowing things wide open with a nine-run uprising in the fifth.

That was more than enough offensive support for Holland, who worked all five innings of the mercy-rule-shortened contest for Otsego. Holland allowed two runs (one earned) on two hits with no walks and seven strikeouts.

"Both of our pitchers did very well and we played good defense behind them," Knash said.

Holland also finished 4-for-4 at the plate with two doubles, three runs and four RBI.

Pierce (2-for-3 with a double, three runs and an RBI), Mosher (2-for-2 with a double, two runs and an RBI) and Sophia Staeven (2-for-4 with a double, two runs and two RBI) also had multiple hits in the victory.

"We had many girls were really hitting well," Knash said. "Cassie Holland, Sydneigh Mosher, Mariah Weaver and Audrey Lingbeek had great days at the plate."

Madison Seibert and Sophia Munch each singled for Plainwell, with Munch also driving in a run.

Sophia Barth pitched for Plainwell. She walked five and struck out one.

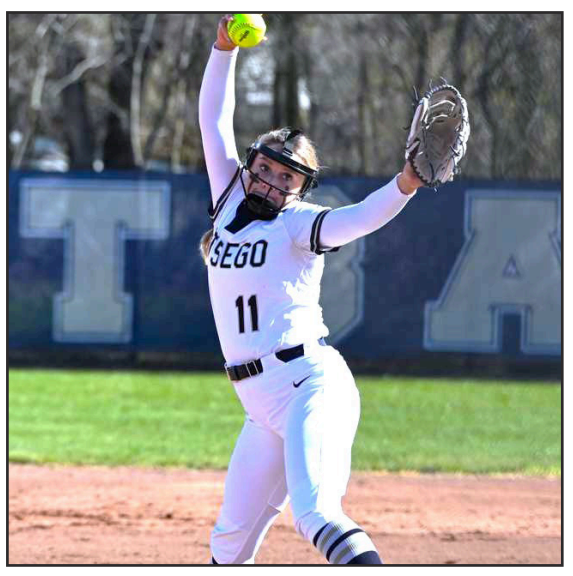
Otsego racked up 32 hits and 32 runs in its sweep against Plainwell. (Photo provided by Brett Beier)

B&C Trophy and Apparel, Inc. ATHLETE of the WEEK

Cassie Holland
Otsego
Softball

Otsego senior Cassie Holland was a force both at the plate and in the pitcher's circle during a Wolverine Conference doubleheader sweep over Plainwell on Tuesday, April 1, helping the Bulldogs to wins of 14-0 and 18-2.

At the plate, she went a combined 6-for-7 with three doubles, five runs and seven RBI from the leadoff spot. She also picked up the complete-game win in the second game, allowing two runs (one earned) on two hits and no walks with seven strikeouts.



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Boys Golf Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLEGAN

The 2024 season was a solid one for the Allegan boys golf team, as the Tigers placed second in their division.

But with all six of the team's top players gone this year due to graduation, the 2025 season will be something of a rebuilding one for Allegan coach Robert Loftus.

"We'll have several newcomers joining the program this season," Loftus said. "We'll rely on our seniors and juniors to help and support our underclassmen."

Among the players excepted to make an impact for the Tigers are junior Logan Glave along with sophomores Noah Kuebler and Trent Anderson.

Despite the youthful makeup of the team, Loftus remains optimistic that the Tigers can be competitive.

"Our team is young and with not a lot of match experience yet, but we'll be ready to compete in our division and the conference tournament," he said. "We are working on rebuilding our team and look forward to the upcoming season."

Even though many of the golfers on this year's roster are new to the team, the group is already showing a strong bond.

"Our strength is great team chemistry," Loftus said. "We have a solid group of players that will support and help each other."

HOPKINS

As a junior last season, Luke Dame earned Honorable Mention All-Conference honors.

Longtime Hopkins coach William Spoelhof is hoping for even bigger things for both Dame and the team as a whole this season.

"One of our goals is to have at least two of our players to make All-Conference this year," said Spoelhof, who enters his 17th season at the helm of the Vikings.

In terms of competing in the OK Silver, the Vikings were fourth last season.

"We want to place in the top half of our league this year," Spoelhof said.

Spoelhof views NorthPointe Christian and Calvin Christian as the top teams in the conference.

"Those two teams are always tough," he said.

Joining Dame as returning golfers are fellow seniors Nash Miller and Caleb Steingold.

Juniors Henry Teunissen and Abe Krussell each had strong seasons at the JV level a year ago.

"We're hoping for great things from them," Spoelhof said of Teunissen and Krussell.

As a team, Spoelhof views driving and chipping as strengths.

"We are always looking to improve on putting," he said.

OTSEGO

After coaching the boys golf team at Otsego for the past 25 years, Matt Rayman announced that his 26th season will be the final one of his career.

He has high hopes of going out on a high note, as all nine varsity players from last year's team that won the Wolverine Conference championship are back.

That group includes senior Spencer Shearer, who will continue his golf career at the University of Detroit Mercy next year.

"Spencer will lead the way for us," said Rayman, who has claiming six Wolverine Conference titles and been named Wolverine Conference Coach of the Year eight times in addition to being named Regional Coach of the Year three times.

Other returning golfers include seniors Landon Eastman, Jurian Shaffer and Andrew Ballman along with sophomore Owen Santman and junior Karson Holiday.

It's a group that hopes to defend its conference championship … not that Rayman expects that to be an easy chore.

Otsego senior Spencer Shearer is one of the area's top returning golfers. Shearer won the Wolverine Conference title last season and has signed to play at the University of Detroit Mercy next year. (File photo)

In particular, he sees Plainwell and Vicksburg as threats.

"The Wolverine Conference should be competitive again with Plainwell returning an outstanding junior with a great last name in Drew Rayman," Rayman said. "Vicksburg will also push the top of conference."

On top of its goals in the league, the Bulldogs hope to get out of regionals and improve on last season's showing at the State Finals.

"It should be an exciting year," Rayman said.

SAUGATUCK

To say graduation took a toll on Saugatuck's roster would be an understatement.

The Trailblazers lost four 4-year varsity players from a team that won a conference championship, placed second in its regional and finished seventh at the MHSAA Division 4 State Finals.

Given that loss of talent, you might expect Saugatuck coach Brian Ward to set the team goals a little bit lower this season. And you'd be wrong.

"Our goals this year look very similar to what they've been in years past," said Ward, who enters his 10th season as the varsity coach in Saugatuck and his 13th season with the program overall. "Our expectation for this year is the same as it was last year."

If the Trailblazers are to reach its goals, then its two returning letter winners will need to set the tone for the younger team members.

Back are senior Cam Lewis and junior Nick Mohr.

Newcomers who hope to claim varsity spots are junior Noah Conklin and freshman Grant Schrotenboer. Conklin was the top player on the Saugatuck JV team a season ago.

"While we've got a couple of returners, we still have a lot of open spots to fill and a lack of experience," Ward said. "Our success this year will be based on how quickly we can get the new guys up to speed and some experience under their belt."

In the SAC last year, Saugatuck finished first in three of its seven jamborees, second in three others and third in one.

"Although we lost some great players, other teams did as well," Ward said of the conference outlook. "So, I still think winning the conference is our goal this year."

Note: *No preview information was received from Hamilton, Plainwell or Wayland prior to deadline.*

MHSAA announces classifications for 2025-26 school year

EAST LANSING—Classifications for Michigan High School Athletic Association elections and postseason tournaments for the 2025-26 school year have been announced, with enrollment breaks for postseason tournaments posted to each sport's page on the MHSAA Website.

Classifications for the upcoming school year are based on a second semester count date, which for MHSAA purposes was Wednesday, Feb. 12.

The enrollment figure submitted for athletic classification purposes may be different from the count submitted for school aid purposes. That's because the count for the MHSAA does not include students ineligible for athletic competition.

Those students include those who have reached their 19th birthday prior to Sept. 1 of the current school year. The MHSAA count also does not include alternative education students if none are allowed athletic eligibility by the local school district.

All sports' tournaments are conducted with schools assigned to equal or nearly equal divisions, with lines dependent on how many schools participate in those respective sports

For 2025-26, there are 754 tournament-qualified member schools. Schools recently were notified of their classification, and sport-by-sport divisions were posted to the MHSAA website on Monday, April 7.

MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said a school may not subsequently lower its enrollment figure. However, if a revised enrollment figure is higher and indicates that a school should be playing in a higher division, that school would be moved up.

Three MHSAA Finals champions crowned during the first two seasons of this 2024-25 school year are set to move to new divisions for 2025-26. The Orchard Lake St. Mary's (11-player Division 2) and Deckerville (8-player Division 1) football teams won titles in November but will move into 11-player Division 3 and 8-player Division 2, respectively, this upcoming season.

Holland Christian's boys tennis team—champion in Lower Peninsula Division 4 this past fall—will move into Lower Peninsula Division 3.

Schools also may request to play in a higher classification or division in a sport for a minimum of two years. Requests to opt up in fall sports for 2025-26 must be submitted by May 1, winter sports by Aug. 14 and spring sports by Oct. 15

Visit the respective sport pages on the MHSAA Website at https://www.mhsaa.com/ to review the divisional alignments for all MHSAA-sponsored tournament sports. Click the "SPORTS" menu on the home page to access the page for each sport, then the "Assignments" link on the selected sport page and then "DIVISION LIST" to see the 2025-26 division.

Boys volleyball, which will begin play with MHSAA sponsorship in 2025-26, will be classified in September, providing more time to identify the number of schools that will have varsity teams in that sport for its inaugural season.

Traditional classes (A, B, C, D)—formerly used to establish tournament classifications—are used only for MHSAA elections. To determine traditional classifications, after all counts are submitted, tournament-qualified member schools are ranked according to enrollment and then split as closely into quarters as possible.

For 2025-26, there are 188 member schools each in Class A and Class B, and 189 member schools each in Class C and Class D.

Two Allegan County schools were among the 44 schools that had a change when it came to traditional classes. Wayland moved down from Class A to Class B, while Fennville moved down from Class B to Class C.

Effective with the 2025-26 school year, schools with 788 or more students are in Class A. The enrollment limits for Class B are 370-787, Class C is 171-369, and schools with enrollments of 170 and fewer are Class D.

The break between Classes A and B decreased five students from 2024-25, the break between Classes B and C decreased eight students and the break between Classes C and D is two students higher than for the 2024-25 school year.

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Hildebrand, Watson lead Bulldogs to victory over Trojans

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The first game of Wolverine Conference baseball doubleheader between host Plainwell and Otsego on Tuesday, April 1, started well enough for the Trojans.

After holding the Bulldogs scoreless in the top of the first inning, Plainwell plated two runs in the bottom of the frame off Otsego starter Karl Hildebrand to take a quick 2-0 lead.

That, however, would be the only offense the Trojans would muster, as Hildebrand and reliever Jaydon Watson combined for six shutout innings the close out the game as Otsego won 6-2.

The Bulldogs led the nightcap 2-1 through four innings when the game was postponed due to darkness. A makeup date has yet to be announced.

Hildebrand allowed four hits with three walks and seven strikeouts in his five innings of work. He exited the game clinging to a 3-2 lead.

:Karl gave us another very good early outing on the mound," Otsego coach Matt Eldred said. "I really like how he competes. He got himself in a jam with the two walks in the first inning that Filkins then drove in with a double. After that, he really settled in and didn't allow them to really get anything going."

Watson closed out the game with two scoreless innings to collect the save. He didn't allow a hit while walking two and strikeout out two.

"It was huge for us to have Karl and Jaydon pitch the way they did," Eldred said. "I was very pleased with how they both handled a few miscues on our part defensively. They just moved on to the next play and none of the errors ending up leading to any runs being scored.

"In fact, I liked how the whole team responded in those moments."

Otsego gave itself some breathing room in the top of the sixth inning, plating three runs to push its lead to four runs.

Watson led the way offensively for Otsego, going 3-for-3 with two runs and an RBI. Hildebrand and Scottie Durr each doubled, while Brennan Perry, Kyle Holladay, Ryan Cockerel and Landon Wrobleski each singled.

Luke Filkins doubled and drove in both of the Trojans' runs. Andrew Hampton, CJ Laninga and Landon Naas each added a single.

Filkins started and took the loss, allowing three runs (two earned) on five hits with three walks and three strikeouts. Josh Stempien (three runs on four hits) pitched the final two frames.

Watson pitched all four innings that were played in game two. He limited the Trojans to one run on two hits with two walks and four strikeouts.

Watson also had both of Otsego's hits and scored one of the two runs. Cockerel accounted for the other run.

Plainwell bot singles from Filkins and Urijah Davis, with Caleb McNutt scoring the lone run.

Hampton (two runs on one hits with two walks and two strikeouts) and Dominic Annerino (no runs on one hit with two strikeouts) each tossed two frames for the Trojans.

The previous week, Otsego squared off with Allegan in a non-conference twin bill on Monday, March 24, and came away with wins of 10-0 in game one and 5-0 in game two.

The first game, which was stopped after six innings due to the mercy rule, saw Jaxon Ray go 3-for-3 with a double, three runs and three RBI from the leadoff spot for the Bulldogs. Durr added a double, with Watson (two runs and an RBI) and Drew Kortokrax (two runs) each contributing with a single.

Otsego scored multiple runs in the first inning (three), fourth inning (three) and sixth inning (four).

Hildebrand (one hit, three walks, nine strikeouts) pitched the first four innings to collect the win. Watson (two hits, two strikeouts) worked the final two frames.

For Allegan, Elliot Leece doubled to go with singles form Silas Neldon and Nate Kuebler. Kuebler also started on the mound and went the first 2.1 innings, allowing three runs on three hits with five walks and four strikeouts.

Otsego scored a run in the first inning of the nightcap on a groundout by Watson before tacking on four runs an inning later. Ray and Durr each had two-run singles to accounted for the second-inning runs.

Cockerel and Peyton Koenig joined Ray and Durr with singles for Otsego. Koenig also pitched the first two innings, allowing one run and three walks with four strikeouts.

Nate Maisel picked up the win with 1.1 innings of scoreless relief, striking out two. Cockerel recorded the final two outs, including a strikeout.

Jaydon Watson delivers a pitch for Otsego, which bested Plainwell 6-2. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Neldon had the lone hit for Allegan. John Dial (five runs on four hits with two walks and five strikeouts in four innings) started and took the loss.

Plainwell boys track edges past Otsego in meet's final event

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—The boys track meet between host Otsego and Plainwell on Tuesday, April 1, came down to the final event.

And that event—the 4x400 relay—came down to about one second.

The Plainwell quartet of Carter Monette, Hiro Nguyen, Donovan Ryan and Trent Hanson recorded a time of 3:39.44 to edge out Otsego's Kaleb Koestner, Zeke Andrina, Dylan Towne and Jack Cook by 1.14 seconds.

The win in the 4x400 gave the Trojans the 73-64 victory for the meet.

On the girls side, Plainwell secured the 77-60 victory.

The boys meet came down to the 4x400 based on Otsego's performance in the 3,200. The Bulldogs went 1-2-3—Caleb Wesseldyk won, followed by Kenny Sheffer and Gunar Djerf—to narrow their deficit to 68-64.

Wesseldyk also won the 1,600 at 4:59, joining teammate Michael Spitzner with two wins in individual events. Spitzner took first in the 110 hurdles (18.49) and the 300 hurdles (46.83).

Other wins for Otsego came from Alex Robbins (48-3 in the shot), Owen Gauthier (114-8 in discus), Dylan Towne (5-8 in high jump) and the 4x100 relay team (47.11).

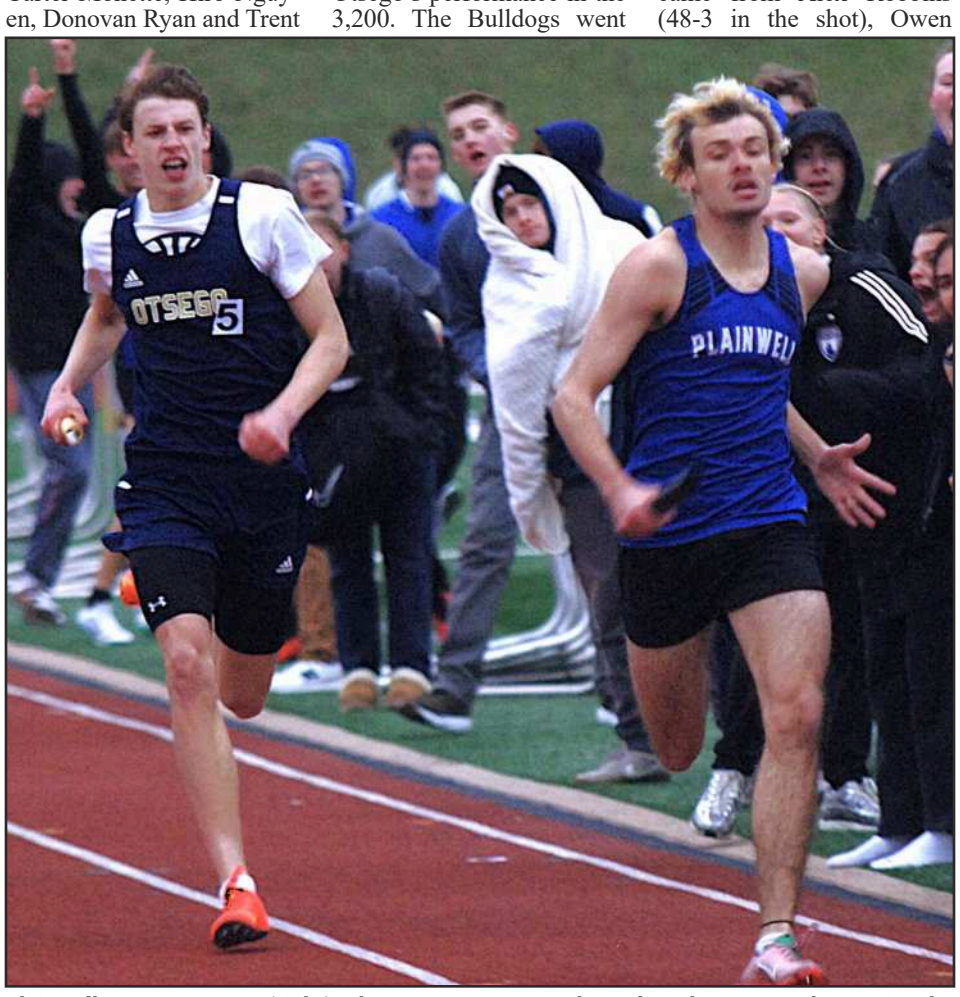
For Plainwell, Monette won the 100 (11.5) and 200 (24.07) and was part of the winning 4x200 relay team. Ryan won the 800 (2:10) and was part of the winning 4x800 relay, while Hanson won the 400 (53.26) and was part of the winning 4x200 relay team.

In the girls meet, Jadyn Erdody was the standout for Plainwell, winning four events. Those victories came in the 100 hurdles (17.96), the 300 hurdles (50.57), the shot (33-7) and the discus (118-5).

Alyana Ranney took the top spot in the 200 (27.83) and the 400 (1:04.48), while Hailey Newcomb placed first in the 100 (13.31) and long jump (14-1). Ranney and Newcomb were also both in the winning 4x200 relay, with Newcomb in the winning 4x100 relay and Ranney in the winning 4x400 relay.

Otsego's Emma Hoffman won the 1,600 (5:03) and the 3,200 (11:43). She also was part of the winning 4x800 relay, as was Sky Mejeur, who won the 800 at 2:30.65.

Sylar Brooks (4-8 in the high jump) and Taylor Klimp (7-0 in the pole vault) had the other victories for the Bulldogs.



Plainwell's Trent Hanson (right) edges out Otsego's Jack Cook in the 4x400 relay to give the Trojans the win in the meet. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Hamilton baseball shuts out Allegan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—Carter Basinski and Dakota Breuker combined on a two-hit shutout to lead Hamilton to the 11-0 win over Allegan in a non-league baseball showdown on Tuesday, April 1.

The game was stopped after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Basinski started and pitched the first three innings, allowing one hit and striking out four. Breuker followed with two innings of one-hit relief and included a pair of punchouts.

At the plate, Landon Vanderzwaag, Marc Brower and Clay Blauwkamp each collected two hits to lead the charge for the Hawkeyes.

The win upped Hamilton's record to 4-2. Allegan slipped to 0-3.

Fennville baseball splits with Lee

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WYOMING—Fennville starting pitcher Isaiah Peoples looked sharp in his outing against Wyoming Lee in the first game of a doubleheader on Tuesday, April 1.

Peoples pitched five shutout innings—allowing just two hits and one walk while striking out four—to lead the Blackhawks to the 13-0 victory.

The game was stopple after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Fennville was unable to get the bats going in the second game, as it fell 5-1 to settle for the split.

Offensive standouts for the Blackhawks in the opener included Noah Stevens, Seamus Lynch and Derek Arenado, who each drove in two runs. Stevens also had a double, while Arenado, Ian Ciokiewicz, Ely Schut and Zach Onken each contributed a single.

On the base paths, Schut racked up three stolen bases, including one of home.

Arenado singled and scored Fennville's lone run in the nightcap. Peoples added a double, with Stevens and Khordell Bernard each singling.

Benard also pitched the first four innings. He allowed four runs, but only one was earned. He surrendered two hits and five walks with four strikeouts.

Brayden Wagner allowed one run in a relief appearance.

Fennville softball picks up sweep over Wyoming Lee in twin bill

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WYOMING—The Fennville softball team got the bats going in a non-league doubleheader against Wyoming Lee on Tuesday, April 1.

The Blackhawks pounded out 16 total hits and scored a 22 total runs to pick up wins of 14-6 and 8-7 to complete the sweep.

Vivian Rasmussen and Veda Seward each had two singles in the opener to lead the offensive charge. Rasmussen also had an RBI, while Seward had two runs and two RBI.

Cailey Mokma (two runs, two RBI), Marynn Winne (run, RBI), Aubrie Hammer (run, three RBI), Amiyah Johnson (two runs) and Ryleigh Wilson (run) added one single each.

Fennville scored three times in the first inning of game one, but the Rebels fought back to tie the score at 4-4 through three innings. But the Blackhawks took command in the fourth inning, plating seven runs.

Game two was much closer, with Fennville needing three runs in the fifth inning to secure the victory.

Reese Anaya was one of the offensive heroes for the Blackhawks, collecting a double and driving in four runs. Seward and Winne each had a hit and an RBI, while Rasmussen, Mokma, Mackenzie McIllwain and Lily Achterhof each singled.

Achterhof earned both of the wins in the pitcher's circle, striking out five in game one and seven in the nightcap.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

The time is fast upon us to get started with the spring outdoor clean up. What is your LEAST favorite job?

-Woman at a gas station on M-89: "Cleaning up the landmines from his three dogs. It's disgusting!"

-Woman with her: "They're his dogs. Why don't you make him do it?" First woman: "Because he won't do it and the last time I tried he hit me he was so angry."

[In case you are wondering, almost everything except the basic answer was changed for the woman's protection.]

-Man near the Fennville Hardware Store: "Raking wet soggy leaves. I was out the other day, and some of them are still frozen. It's nice one day and then snow the next."

-Another man, same location, "Same here. And they're wet and heavy and stink."

-Young boy with his mother, "Picking up sticks. They're all over the lawn and my folks say it's my job now that I'm old. It's boooooooorrrrring!"

-Older couple near the Blue Goose; man: "It used to be all the yard work…" His wife interrupted: "I got him to hire someone to do it. I don't want him dropping face down dead from a heart attack."

-Man near the Griswold in Allegan, "For me, it's putting the sod back in place where it got scraped up by a snow plow this winter. And then rake out the gravel. Every year I have to clean up after someone making the mess."

-Young man a few steps away. "Here, mister, take my business card. You need a handy man to do all the work you don't want to do, you call me."

-Young girl and mother, "My brother is going to green school at GVSU in Allendale!" Her mother explained that he was studying to be a professional greens keeper at a golf course, adding that they make good money and can often play for free.

Older man near the Allegan Post Office, "I hired a company to take care of it last year. I called them again and they want about 25% more. Now, considering the way this country's going right now, I don't think I should take a chance spending so much. I'll do it myself."

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Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

April 10, 1950

Irish girl, Oriental chef are club partners: If the cuisine around Allegan takes on an original flavor, you can blame (or thank, as the case may be) the county's newest and most cosmopolitan partnership.

And if all the meals which Dorothy Downey—a fair-haired Irisher—and "Mike" Kawabata—a native-born Japanese—have had a hand in were lain end-to-end, they'd represent an awful stack of dirty dishes.

Kawabata and Downey are the new caterers at Ot-Well-Egan county club, between Allegan and Otsego on M-89. The club dining room is open to the public this year for the first time in many years and their varied dinner menu bids fair to attract those who enjoy good food.

Although the regular menu is consistently American, it probably will be Kawabata's Chinese foods that will get the most comment

April 10, 1975

DeHaan promoted, Ries named his replacement here: James E. DeHaan, vice president and Allegan office manager for First National Bank and Trust Company of Michigan, has been named vice president in charge of the bank's installment load department.

Replacing DeHaan as Allegan office manager will be Daniel A. Ries, who is currently serving as the bank's Lake Center Office manager in Kalamazoo.

The management changes were announced this week by First National President James H. Duncan.

DeHaan, who has been with the Allegan office for more than four years, said the transition from his management to Ries' would be gradual, taking place over the next 60 days.

The Allegan office manager said he will work in Kalamazoo in his new capacity and will probably be moving closer to the Kalamazoo area some time this summer.

Ries, who now lives in Portage, said he is seeking a home in the Allegan area and will relocating in Allegan as soon as possible.

Dee DeHollander volunteers time and elbow grease for the cleansing of the First United Methodist Church of Plainwell after 10 months of remodeling. (Photo by Erica Warren)

April 13, 2000

Church reopens with march along Riverwalk: After 10 months of worship in the Plainwell Community Center and multi-million dollars of renovations, the 131-year-old First United Methodist Church of Plainwell will hold its reopening service on Palm Sunday.

Most of the able-bodied members donated time and elbow grease to give the congregation a most sparkling reopening. The reopening service will begin after the march from the Plainwell Community Center on the Riverwalk to the church.

The major renovations of the church, which include new bathrooms, elevator, narthex, paint, carpet, central air conditioning units, enlarged chancel to better hold the 30-member choir and a large rear parking lot by the new rear-entrance with easy drop-off access, make the church more accommodating.

The church is just beautiful," said Jinnie S., member since 1961. "I can't walk the river on Palm Sunday because of my husband, who doesn't get around well. But I wouldn't miss the reopening of the church even if I was sick in bed that morning."

Jinnie said one can't imagine how much the inside has changed. The addition of the elevator and rear-entrance enables her husband an easier time. She said these changes will probably encourage others, who haven't attended because of the hard time getting around, to rejoin services.

April 9, 2020

Sassy Olive, community rally to make masks: When Landria Christman, owner of The Sassy Olive in Allegan, announced she would help make masks for health care workers last month, she knew demand would be big.

But it was extremely big.

"It got out of hand pretty quickly," Christman said Monday. "We got over 10,000 masks requested from more than 300 health care workers."

She posted of the effort March 21 on Facebook, saying, "Our health care workers are on the front line right now during the outbreak of COVID-19. This profession has been a huge support to my business for a long time, and now I want to give back to them. I am proud to launch our #SassyStopsTheSpread Fundraiser to raise funds for the fabric, elastic, shipping and packaging costs to donate handmade face masks to local Michigan health care systems."

The next day, she shipped out 200 masks. Four days later, she had to pause the incoming orders due to the high volume.

Only a few days before announcing the effort, Christman had gone through the heartbreak of laying off all of her employees as the state shelter-in-place order went into effect.

At first, it was just her and some family and friends working on the masks. As orders piled up, even some former employees are volunteering their time, though she's still limiting how many can be in the shop on Locust Street at a time and sanitizing in between shifts.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

James E. DeHaan, outgoing Allegan office manager for First National Bank, discusses a financial report with his successor, Daniel A. Ries, a Portage resident who has most recently been manager of the bank's Lake Center office.

—News & Gazette photo

Deaths

March 18, 2025

ZANE LARRY KARK, 81, Casco Twp.

March 19, 2025

LARRY GLEN CONVERSE, 84, South Haven

March 22, 2025

DEREK LYNN DECKER, 59, Otsego Twp.

March 23, 2025

FRITTS WILLIAM RYAN, 82, Cheshire Twp.

DONALD LYNN KUHN, 70, Fennville

MARTHA LUCINDA GRIM, 55, Clyde Twp.

CHARLES JOHN DAILEY III, 66, Casco TWp.

March 24, 2025

BRUCE DEE STEELE, 95, Gun Plain Twp.

March 25, 2025

PAUL TRACY FREDRICKSON, 67, Saugatuck Twp.

JULIA ANN SHERWOOD, 92, Casco Twp.

March 26, 2025

ROY ARTHUR CARLSON, 86, Gun Plain Twp.

RICHARD JOSEPH NEAS, 84, Otsego Twp.

March 27, 2025

FLORINE LUCELE HESTER, 93, Allegan

March 28, 2024

JEFFREY STEVEN GREENE, 62, Trowbridge Twp.

March 30, 2025

ROBERT REED BROWN, 65, Watson Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between March 25 and April 2:

JODI ROSE PARKS, INDIANAPOLIS, IN, and **KELSEY ELIZABETH DUNNING**, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

ANA MARIA ARIAS, Fennville, and **JOSE GUADALUPE ESQUEDA PEREZ**, Fennville

DEWEY RAYMOND MISHOE II, Holland, and **AMANDA LEA CARSO**, Holland

SAMUEL ALAN LINDGREN, Wayland, and **ELICIA MARIE RIDER**, Wayland

GARY LAWRENCE OEGEMA, Holland, and **JANET MARIE TROY**, Holland

MARY KAY GLASS, Fennville, and **RUTH MARIE ZWALD**, Fennville

KYMBERLI MARIE NICHOLS, Otsego, and **COLTON WYATT KEYZER**, Otsego

BRANDON ANTHONY STARBUCK, Allegan, and **TINA ANN JOHNSON**, Allegan

MALIA SARA EDWARDS, Wayland, and **PRESTON DALE WYCHERS**, Wayland

Sudoku

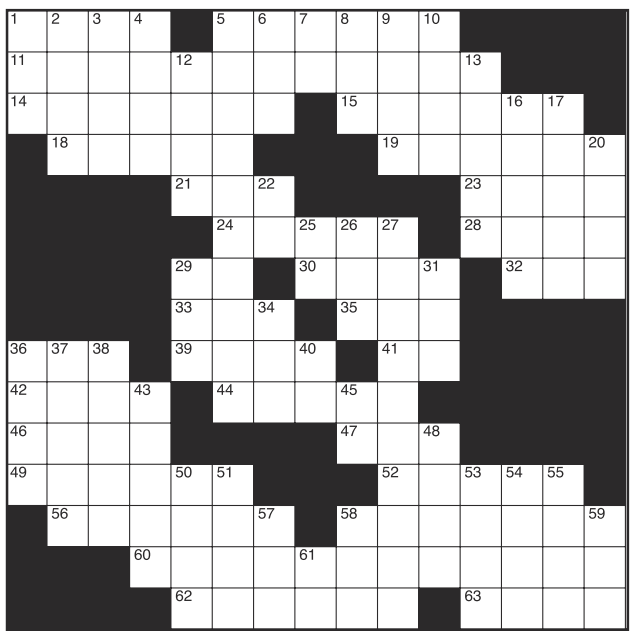
Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

								2
		8				7	9	6
9	7					1	8	
5		3			2			
			3		7			
	8			5			6	
		9				2		
				7				5
6	3			2		4		

(See Solution Page B7)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Garden tool
5. A way to preserve
11. Gratitude
14. Domestic sheep
15. Simpler
18. Cavities containing liquid
19. Large fish-eating bird
21. Ocular protection index
23. Phil __, former CIA
24. Icelandic poems
28. Pop
29. Device
30. Actor Rudd
32. A pituitary hormone
33. Focus on an object
35. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
36. Young women' s association
39. Not shallow
41. Doctor
42. Furniture
44. Hindu male religious teacher
46. Highly spiced stew
47. A way to communicate
49. Almost last
52. Astronomer Carl
56. Small horses
58. A slender tower with balconies
60. A disrespectful quality
62. Fully shaded inner regions
63. Short convulsive intake of breath

CLUES DOWN

1. Popular Sunday dinner option
2. Oil cartel
3. Agile
4. Greek goddess of discord
5. Genetically distinct variety
6. Indicates badly
7. Popular Mr. T character
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL great Randy
12. Within
13. Palm trees
16. Fungal disease
17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. A passport is one
25. Two outs in baseball (abbr.)
26. Swiss river
27. Deferential
29. Where a bachelor lives
31. Portable computer screen material
34. A crying noise of a bird
36. Sticky, amorphous substance
37. Starchy dish of dried tubers
38. Type of acid
40. Partner to 'Ma'
43. 16 ounces
45. The Bay State
48. A well-defined track or path
50. Substitution
51. Defined period
53. Group of toughs
54. Region
55. Famed Scottish Loch
57. Blood relation
58. Not around
59. Recipe measurement
61. Father to Junior

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Todd A. Smith, a married man and Miranda M. Smith, his wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3

Date of Mortgage: September 13, 2006

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 15, 2006

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $92,201.68

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Plainwell, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 122 and 123, Corporation Plat, being in Section 29, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, according to the Plat thereof recorded in liber 1 of Plats, Page 12 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Allegan County Records

Common street address (if any): 204 N Sherwood Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-1429

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 20, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1556177

(03-20)(04-10)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Juan Marquez, a married man

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: November 14, 2018

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 20, 2018

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $20,847.76

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing 40 rods North of the Southwest corner of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 16, Town 2 North, Range 15 West; thence North 12 Rods; thence East 40 rods; thence South 12 rods; thence West 40 rods to the place of beginning.

Common street address (if any): NHN 55 th St, Fennville, MI 49408

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 20, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1556179

(03-20)(04-10)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at that place where Circuit Court is held in Allegan County, Michigan, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain Commercial Mortgage ("Mortgage") to secure an indebtedness in the original amount of $398,750.00, from RVRCTY Ventures, LLC, the Mortgagor, to Velocity Commercial Capital, LLC dba New Day Commercial Capital, Mortgagee, dated October 22, 2024, recorded on November 4, 2024, 2024, at Liber 4987, Page 541, of the Records of the Allergan County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due the amount of $406,240.98, plus regular interest accruing on the principal balance of $398,414.15 at the rate of 10.25% per annum, plus default interest at the rate of 5.0% per annum, plus loan fees that continue to accrue thereafter, plus late charges, corporate advances, and escrow advances that continue to accrue thereafter, plus any applicable contractual prepayment penalty, plus legal fees and costs. No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by said Mortgage or any part thereof. Said premises are commonly known as 1139 146th Ave., Wayland, MI 49348, situated in Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as follows: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST 1 013.66 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SOUTHWEST 1/4 TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST 170.00 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST 386.50 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST 170.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 386.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. APN: 13-006-024-50 Notice is further given that the length of the redemption shall be six months from the date of sale. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. If the mortgaged premises is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL Chapter 600, under section 3278, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the mortgaged premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale for damaging the mortgaged premises during the redemption period. This Instrument Prepared By: Zachary D. Prendergast, Esq. Robbins Kelly Patterson & Tucker 312 Elm Street, Suite 2200 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Phone: (513) 721-3330 Fax: (513) 721-5001 E-Mail: zprendergast@rkpt.com

(03-20)(04-10)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kayla Picolet and Kayla Picolet to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Austin Capital Bank SSB dated June 14, 2019 and recorded June 20, 2019 in Liber 4354, Page 624, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by MidFirst Bank by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief entered for Plaintiff, MidFirst Bank against Defendant(s), Kayla Picolet in Case No. 24-68997-CH of Allegan County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered on the 10th day of February, 2025, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Twenty Dollars and Twenty-Six Cents ($136,020.26), which includes interest from at a rate of 6.75% plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, on the 15th day of May, 2025 at 9:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Valley, County of Allegan and State of Michigan, described as follows: Lot 28 in Alpha Manor, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 39, Allegan County Records. Commonly Known As: 1751 Tom Nolan Rd, Allegan, MI, 49010 Tax ID: 22-100-028-00 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: March 17, 2025 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorney Name Attorneys for Plaintiff File No. 24-005784

(03-20)(04-24)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Laurie A. Maxam, an unmarried woman, whose address is 356 Washinton Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERIFIRST FINANCIAL CORPORATION, being a mortgage dated August 31, 2021, and recorded on September 10, 2021 in Liber 4669 Page 478, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated October 2, 2023 and recorded on October 3, 2023 in Liber 4892 Page 57, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED ELEVEN AND 89/100 DOLLARS ($110,911.89). Said premises are situated in the City of Ostego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: LOT 89, RAVEN'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF OTSEGO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 61, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS. Street Address: 356 Washinton Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: March 20, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6364

(03-20)(04-10)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Theresa Marie Smith aka Theresa M. Smith, a single person. Original Mortgagee: 21st Mortgage Corporation. Date of Mortgage: March 18, 2022. Date of Mortgage Recording: April 20, 2022 in Liber 4752, Page 424, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said Mortgage encompasses all improvements, including a 1997 Four Seasons 16x80 manufactured home bearing serial number FH102293. Amount claimed due on date of notice: fifty-three thousand one hundred sixty-four and 06/100 Dollars ($53,164.06), including interest. Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Lee, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, to wit: Parcel "B" Description: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 23, Town 1 North, Range 15 West, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 23 minutes 58 seconds East 1309.34 feet along the East line of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 47 seconds West 220.04 feet along the South line of the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section to the Point of Beginning; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 47 seconds West 220.02 feet along said South line; thence North 00 degrees 26 minutes 11 seconds West 654.85 feet; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes 24 seconds East 220.23 feet along the North line of the South 1/2 of the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 25 minutes 05 seconds East 654.76 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to and together with a 66 foot wide easement for ingress, egress, and utilities over part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 23, Town 1 North, Range 15 West, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan, the centerline of which is described as: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 23 minutes 58 seconds East 865.36 feet along the East line of said Section to the Point of Beginning of said centerline; thence North 83 degrees 47 minutes 30 seconds West 2668.37 feet to the Point of Ending of said centerline, Common street address: 5016 Fox Run, Grand Junction, Michigan 49056. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. This sale may be rescinded or set aside by the foreclosing mortgagee. In such event, damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return or refund of the bid amount tendered at such sale, together with interest. Dated: March 21, 2025 21st Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee By: Richard A. Green Law Offices of Richard A. Green 30150 Telegraph Road, Ste. 444 Bingham Farms, MI 48025 (248) 924-2354

(03-27)(04-17)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Kurt McKenzie to National City Bank dated October 3, 2003 and recorded November 13, 2003 in Liber 2590 at Page 132, Allegan County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by PNC Bank, National Association by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $65,120.94. Said premises are located in Allegan County, Michigan and are described as: Situated in the County of Allegan, Township of Gun Plain, State of Michigan, to-wit: Beginning at a point 420 feet North of the Southeast corner of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 23, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, thence North 125 feet, thence West at right angles 150 feet, thence South at right angles 125 feet, thence East to the place of beginning. Permanent Parcel Number: 03-08-023-009-00 Said property is commonly known as 552 4th Street, Plainwell, MI 49080. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: March 20, 2025 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 19-21554

(03-27)(04-17)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): David Flores, married man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: February 22, 2016

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 26, 2016

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $125,531.40

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Unit No. 10 Meadowview Estates Condominium, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 2747 on Page 804 and amendments thereto (if any), and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No.211, together with rights in common elements as set forth in above Master Deed and as described in act 229 of public acts of 1963 and act 59 of public acts of 1978, and amendments thereto.

Common street address (if any): 1895 Edson # 10, Allegan, MI 49010-9249

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 27, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1556556

(03-27)(04-17)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 01, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Lebelle Russ f/k/a Lebelle Fitzpatrick, a married woman and James Russ, her husband Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: November 3, 2020 Recorded on November 10, 2020, Liber 4536, on Page 99, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Ten Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-One and 30/100 Dollars ($110,981.30) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: BEGINNING AT THE EAST QUARTER POST OF SECTION 2, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 58 SECONDS WEST ON THE EAST AND WEST QUARTER LINE, 285.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 28 SECONDS WEST PARALLEL TO THE EAST SECTION LINE, 210.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST, 285.00 FEET TO THE EAST SECTION LINE; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 28 SECONDS EAST ON SAME, 210.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Commonly known as 1106 26th St, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1557270

(03-27)(04-17)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew W Carpenter, single man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC

Date of Mortgage: August 7, 2019

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 4, 2019

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $130,010.60

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Valley, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 15, Town 2 North, Range 14 West, Valley Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section, thence North 88 degrees 35 minutes 00 seconds West 1315.73 feet along the North line of said Section to the 1/8 post of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds West 259.46 feet along West line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds West 423.94 feet to the centerline of Allegan Dam Road; thence South 70 degrees 29 minutes 19 seconds East 104.77 feet along said centerline, thence North 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds East 456.49 feet; thence North 88 degrees 35 minutes 00 seconds West 98.97 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 4040 Allegan Dam Rd, Allegan, MI 49010-8932

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: April 3, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1557666

(04-03)(04-24)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Under the power of sale contained herein in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or a cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by James Kendall and Lanora Kendall, Husband and Wife, original mortgagors, to Citifinancial Mortgage Company, Inc., dated October 31, 2005, and recorded November 10, 2015 in Book 2916, Page 404 in Allegan County records, Michigan, and assigned to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on June 11, 2015 in Book 3935, and Page 82 and assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, solely as owner trustee on behalf of Grand Avenue Mortgage Loan Trust 2017-RPL1 by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on January 24, 2018 in Book 4216, Page 320 and assigned to US Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of LB-TIKI Series V Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on January 27, 2023 in Book 4832, Page 466 and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Dwelling Series V Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on July 12, 2023 in Book 4870, Page 659, and on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixty- Three Thousand One Hundred Fifty Eight and 17/100 dollars ($163,158.17). Said premises are situated in the Township of Overisel, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, and particularly described as: Situated in the Township of Overisel, County of Allegan, State of Michigan: That part of the West 5/8 of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 33, Town 4 North, Range 14 West, Overisel Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as beginning at the North 1/4 corner of Section 33, thence proceeding on the North line of Section 33 South 87 degrees 49 minutes 01 second East 295.29 feet; thence on a line parallel with the North and South 1/4 line of Section 33 South 00 degrees 12 minutes 29 seconds East 295.29 feet; thence North 87 degrees 49 minutes 01 second West 295.29 feet to the North and South 1/4 line of Section 33; thence North 00 degrees 12 minutes 29 seconds West 295.29 feet to the point of beginning. Property Address: 3797 43rd Street Hamilton, MI 49419 Parcel No.: 18-033-003-10 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: April 3, 2025 For more information, please call: (440) 572-1511 Sottile and Barile PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180 Loveland, OH 45140 File MF2405004 - Kendall, James and Lanora

(04-03)(04-24)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. Default has occurred in the conditions of a mortgage made by Melissa Young (the "Mortgagor") in favor of Big Brother Bail Bonds Agency, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company with an address of 800 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 212, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (the "Mortgagee") dated August 19, 2024, and recorded on September 19, 2024 at Liber 4974, Page 637 of Allegan County Records (the "Mortgage"). The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid as of the date of this Notice is Five Thousand Five Hundred and 0/100 ($5,500.00). This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note as permitted by Michigan law after the date of this Notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of default. The Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of thereof, at public auction, to the highest bidder for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of the sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on, or prior to, the date of said sale. Notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises or some part of them at a public venue at the place of holding, Allegan County Courthouse Lobby at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 at 9:00 a.m. on May 15, 2025. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage is located in the Township of Valley, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, more specifically described as: LOT 155 ASPEN ACRES SEC 21 T2N R14W. Parcel ID: 22-160-155-00 Commonly Known As: 1777 Grant Drive, Allegan, MI 49010 together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements, and fixtures: all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the property; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land division or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the Foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or to rescind the sale at any time. In the event of cancellation or rescission, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for any damage to the property during the redemption period. The length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of the sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale, or as otherwise provided by statute. DATED: March 28, 2025 SHAUN P. WILLIS (P62441) WILLIS LAW ATTORNEYS FOR BIG BROTHER BAIL BONDS AGENCY, LLC 491 W. South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (269) 492-1040

(04-03)(04-24)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Allegan COUNTY

SUMMONS

Matthew Antkoviak P-59449

Case no 25-70202 cz

Plaintiffs name, address, and telephone number

William Tolsma

2790 144th Avenue

Dorr, Michigan 49323

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132

314 Trowbridge St.,

Allegan, MI 49010

269-673-2136

v.

Defendant's name, address, and telephone number

Marilyn Shuiman and the Marilyn Balfoort Trust

2186 Acadia Greens Dr.

Sun City, Florida 33473

Civil Case

A civil action between these parties or other parties arising out of the transaction or occurrence alleged in the complaint has been previously fil

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

4. If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Issue date: 03-06-2025
Expiration date: 06-04-2025

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
County Bldg. Allegan, MI 49010
FILE NO.: 25-70202-CZ
HON. MATTHEW W. ANTKOVIAK
WILLIAM TOLSMA,
PLAINTIFF,
VS.
MARILYN SHULMAN and
THE MARILYN BALFOORT TRUST,
DEFENDANTS,
MICHAEL J. BECKER P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, MCKOWN
& KIEL P.C.
Attorney for Plaintiff
314 Trowbridge Street
Allegan, MI 49010
ORDER FOR ALTERNATIVE SERVICE OF PROCESS
BY PUBLICATION AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

At a session of court held in the courthouse in
Allegan County, Michigan, on March 19, 2025
Present: Honorable Matthew W. Antkoviak, Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the motion, the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendants Marilyn Shulman and The Marilyn Balfoort Trust by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A). The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1), that service of process by delivery by first class mail and publication in Allegan County, Michigan
are the best available methods of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendants actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED. that Plaintiffs must serve the Defendants by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan. Further, that Plaintiff must mail a copy of this order, along with a summons and complaint, by first-class mail, to Defendants at their last known address.

Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
4-3 4-17

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE 48TH CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
File No.: 25-70130-CZ
Hon. Matthew Antkoviak
ORCHARD HILLS VILLAGE MOBILE HOME PARK, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
ESTATE AND HEIRS OF HELEN KELLUM (deceased), and UNKNOWN OWNERS,
Defendants.
Patrick A. Dykstra (P64436)
Curtis J. Barense(P83107)
Jesson & Dykstra, PLC.
2010 44th Street SE,
Grand Rapids MI, 49508
law@vandamjesson.com
(616)455-5200
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

" An action seeking an order that Plaintiff is entitled to a new Mobile Home Title from the Michigan Secretary of State, to a certain 1990 Champion Identification Number: 541166C533AB located at 3 E. Apple Ln., Fennville, MI 49408, has been commenced by Plaintiff Orchard Hills Village Mobile Home Park, LLC against the Estate and Heirs of Helen Kellum, and Unknown Owners in the Allegan County Circuit Court for the State of Michigan. Defendants must answer or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication, If Defendants do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered for the relief demanded in the complaint."

4-3 4-17

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Eugene S Allen and Kim K Allen, Husband and Wife Original Mortgagee: Option One Mortgage Corporation Foreclosing Assignee: Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series OOMC 2005-HE6 , Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series OOMC 2005-HE6 Date of Mortgage: May 5, 2005 Date of Mortgage Recording: May 16, 2005 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $72,385.53 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Cheshire, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: The North 15 Acres of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 29, Town 1 North, Range 14 West, Cheshire Township, Allegan County, Michigan. Commonly Known as: 391 45th St., Grand Junction, MI 49056 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 04/03/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 320528

(04-03)(04-24)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 05, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): TERRY L CRISMAN JR.. MARRIED MAN. Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: July 14, 2021 Recorded on July 22, 2021, in Document No. 2021018254, Liber 4648, on Page 839, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Three and 60/100 Dollars ($175,283.60) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Beginning on the Section line 990 feet East of the Southwest corner of Section 30, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, Gunplain Township, Allegan County, Michigan, and running thence West 22.5 feet; thence with bearings referred to said Section line as East and West, North 0 degrees 17 minutes East 531.7 feet as place of beginning, thence West 241 feet; thence North 180 feet; thence East 241 feet; thence South 180 feet to the place of beginning. Together with ingress and egress thereto over the present right of way situated along the East boundary line of said premises, being approximately 22-1/2 feet wide East and West. Commonly known as 1161 102nd Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1557906
(04-03)(04-24)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Phoenix James Markland has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on May 13, 2025 at 10:30am at FAMILY COURT COURTHOUSE before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater, to change the name of: Phoenix James Markland to Phoenix Benedict Redman

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PUBLICATION OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS REVOCABLE TRUST

In the Matter of: The Bruce D. Steele Revocable Living Trust

TAKE NOTICE: The Bruce D. Steele Revocable Living Trust ("The Trust") was established on February 28, 2001. The Settlor, Bruce D. Steele lived at 326 Riverview Drive, Plainwell, MI 49080. Bruce D. Steele was born on December 8, 1929 and died on March 24, 2025.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Creditors of the Settlor, Bruce D. Steele, and/or "The Trust" are notified that all claims against the Bruce D. Steele Revocable Living Trust will be forever barred unless presented to: Successor Co-Trustees, Douglas E. Steele, of 1241 107th Avenue, Otsego, MI 49078, and Deborah K. Cook, of 374 Vista Wood Drive, Venice, FL 34293 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: April 2, 2025
David F. Kiel (P43048)
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
314 Trowbridge St., P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136

TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, MARY FEDAK, date of birth 03/19/1922, who lived at 243 Wiley Road, Apt D13, Douglas, MI 49406, died 03/07/2025. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the FEDAK FAMILY TRUST DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 1988, AS RESTATED will be forever barred unless presented to Kathryn M. Caruso, Esq., 6480 Citation Drive, Suite A, Clarkston, Michigan 48346, or Thomas E. Sandon, Successor Trustee, at 1039 Vollmers Street, Commerce, MI 48390 within four (4) months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Plaintiff Kay Halbert Nelson has filed an action seeking to discharge a mortgage for real property located in Allegan County, legally described as 'Lot number 88 of Orchard Acres Number 2' against Ability Bail Bond Services Agency, Inc., in Allegan County Circuit Court for the State of Michigan. Defendant must answer or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication of this notice. If Defendant does not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment affecting Defendant's interest may be entered, as requested in the complaint.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
48th CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
Case No.: 2025-70073-CZ
Hon. Matthew Antkoviak
KAY HALBERT NELSON,
Plaintiff,
V.
ABILITY BAIL BOND SERVICES AGENCY, INC.,
Defendant.
Codie Lynn Burt (P85351)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Herbert Machnik Law Firm
5830 Venture Park Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(269) 459-1432
codie@hmlf.law
EX-PARTE ORDER FOR ALTERNATE SERVICE

At a session of said Court held in the County of Allegan, State of Michigan, on the 26 day of March, 2025.

PRESENT: HON. MATTHEW ANTKOVIAK

The Court having considered Plaintiff's Ex-Parte Motion for Alternate Service, supporting
documents, and being fully advised in the premises; the Court finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(J), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED:

Plaintiff may serve process on Defendant by publication, pursuant to MCR 2.106(D) by
publishing the following notice, once a week for 3 consecutive weeks, in a newspaper in the county where the action is pending:

"Plaintiff Kay Halbert Nelson has filed an action seeking to discharge a mortgage for real property located in Allegan County, legally described as 'Lot number 88 of Orchard Acres Number 2' against Ability Bail Bond Services Agency, Inc., in Allegan County Circuit Court for the State of Michigan. Defendant must answer or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication of this notice. If Defendant does not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment affecting Defendant's interest may be entered, as requested in the complaint."

This is not a final order and does not close the case.

Dated: 3/26/2025
Signed: Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
HON. MATTHEW ANTKOVIAK Circuit Court Judge
Brenda L Thomas
Deputy Clerk
4-10 4-24

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
FILE NO. 25-65523-DE

In the matter of Elizabeth Sisty, Deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:* all surviving heirs of Elizabeth Sisty, Deceased whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE:*

1. On March 10, 2025 I was appointed personal representative as requested in the application or petition for probate of this estate. I am serving without bond. The papers related to the estate are on file with the Allegan County Probate Court located at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010. This is not a supervised administration.

2. A copy of the will of the decedent which was admitted to probate and under which I will administer, manage, and distribute the estate.

3. The court does not supervise the personal representative in the administration of an estate except in limited circumstances.

4. I was appointed informally, you or another interested person may petition the court objecting to my appointment and/or demanding that I post a bond or an additional bond. The petition must be filed with the probate court along with the applicable fee. Unless the court grants the petition, I will continue to serve as appointed.

5. You or another interested person may petition for a hearing by the court on any matter at any time during the administration of the estate, including for distribution of assets and allowance of expenses of administration. The petition must be filed with the probate court along with the applicable fee.

6. If you continue to be an interested person (such as an heir of an intestate estate or devisee or beneficiary under the will of the decedent), I will provide you with: 1) a copy of the inventory within 91 days of my appointment; 2) unless waived by you, a copy of an account including fiduciary fees and attorney fees charged to the estate, within 1 year of my appointment; and 3) a copy of the closing statement or settlement petition when the estate is ready for closing.

7. To avoid penalties, I must have paid any federal estate and Michigan estate taxes within 9 months after the date of the decedent's death or another time period specified by law.

8. The estate may not be closed earlier than 5 months after the date of my appointment except in limited circumstances. If the estate is not settled within 1 year after my appointment, within 28 days after the anniversary of the appointment, I must file with the court and send to each interested person a notice that the estate remains under administration and the reason for the continuation of the estate. If you do not receive such a notice, you may petition the court for a hearing on the necessity for continued administration or for closure of the estate.

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith
Ryan E. Lamb P60332
151 Central Avenue, Suite 260
Holland, Michigan 49423
(616) 796-2503
Christopher D. Zawila
Fennville, MI 49408
6234 119th Avenue
(269) 370-6068

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65523-DE and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Elizabeth Sisty Date of Birth:*October 2, 1927

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Elizabeth Sisty, died November 8, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Christopher D. Zawila, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith
Ryan E. Lamb P60332
151 Central Avenue, Suite 260
Holland, Michigan 49423
(616) 796-2503
Christopher D. Zawila
6234 119th Avenue
Fennville, MI 49408
(269) 370-6068

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF Allegan
FILE NO. 25-65547-GM
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

In the matter of Khloii Chanel Butler

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including:
Guadalupe Suarez
Tishun Butler
whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on
Thursday, April 17, 2025 at at 1:30pm at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan MI 49010 before Judge Jolene Clearwater P74848 for the following purpose:
Petition for minor guardianship
3/17/25
Tammy Den Hardy
1608 Elm St
Otsego Mi 49078

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Emily Capitano-Kosanke and Steven Kosanke, wife and husband

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: January 29, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 9, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $118,029.81

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The West 1/2 Lot 28 of Gores Addition and Lot 29 of Gores Addition, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, on Page 27, Allegan County Records.

Common street address (if any): 1053 Bloomfield Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-1505

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: April 10, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1558437
(04-10)(05-01)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Loren K. Sargent, a married man; Rebecca Sargent, a married woman, whose address is 6463 124th, Fennville, Michigan 49408, as original Mortgagors, to THE CIT GROUP/CONSUMER FINANCE, INC., being a mortgage dated October 22, 1998, and recorded on December 14, 1998 in Liber 1798 Page 318, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to The Bank of New York Mellon, the Successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Trustee for CIT Home Equity Loan Trust 2002-1, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated October 2, 2020 and recorded on October 13, 2020 in Liber 4522 Page 744, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY THOUSAND FIFTY-SEVEN AND 87/100 DOLLARS ($30,057.87). Said premises are situated in the Township of Saugatuck, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: EAST 1/3 OF THE SOUTH 3/4 OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 EXCEPT THE NORTH 1500 FEET THEREOF. SECTON 34, TOWN 3 NORTH, RANGE 16 WEST, SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP. ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Street Address: 6463 124th, Fennville, Michigan 49408 The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: April 10, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6440
(04-10)(05-01)

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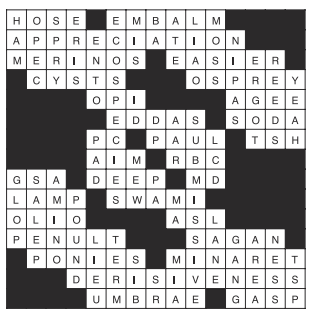

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9	7	5	2	3	6	1	8	4
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4	9	6	3	8	7	5	2	1
2	8	7	4	5	1	9	6	3
7	5	9	6	4	3	2	1	8
8	4	2	1	7	9	6	3	5
6	3	1	8	2	5	4	7	9

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Mowing Service/ Spring Cleanup. Call for estimate. 269-760-1277 , kbronkconstruction@gmail.com

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RELIGION SECTION

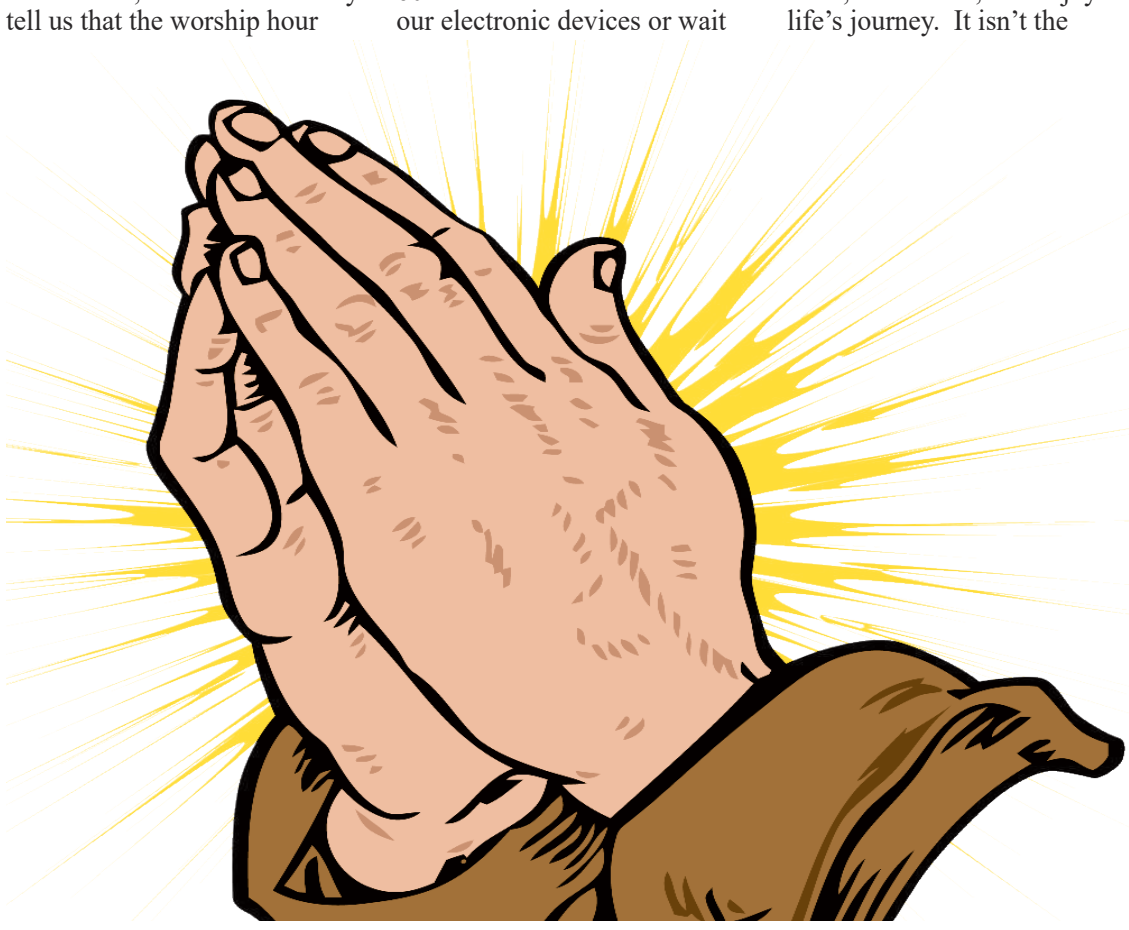
Opening day of Major League Baseball began last week. Fans of the Tigers are hopeful that their team will win the World Series this year; Cubs fans are already moaning, "Wait until next year." There is always something very special about opening day. My late friend George had tickets for Wrigley Field for opening day and never missed being there in person. When he was still a long way from the final stages of cancer he commented, "Baseball gives you hope."

Do you realize, aside from curling and golf, baseball is one of the few sports that does not have a clock moving things along. Of all the others, such as basketball, hockey, lacrosse, football, only baseball is blissfully unconcerned about the length of the game. Indeed, we almost consider it a bonus if a game is tied at the end of the ninth inning and goes into extra innings. Keep that phrase in mind - extra innings, not overtime. That says it all.

We seem to be ruled by our clocks. Remember how, as children, we counted the seconds until the final bell of the school day rang? Or as adults, we watched the clock at work to see how much time remains before we could punch out. My father, a notoriously patient man, would look at his watch on Sundays as the final chords of the postlude faded away. With either smug satisfaction or irritation, he would solemnly tell us that the worship hour was short, right-on time, or "Dr. Mettam was long winded - again."

That was half a century ago; today we are more aware of time as we rush through 60 seconds of news stories on our electronic devices or wait for the three minutes of Late Breaking News!!!!! at the top of the hour on our radio.

Baseball, with its leisurely approach to life, reminds us of a great spiritual truth - breathe, relax, settle back, and enjoy life's journey. It isn't the person with the most money when the die who wins; it is the person who has the most good experiences in life and recognizes that they are all gifts from God. All those are the practical side of what we read in the Gospels, and especially in the Sermon on the Mount.



There are other life lessons for us: physics, not luck or coincidences, are important. Even more important is honest, good sportsmanship, and an appreciation for tradition. We learn about perseverance and self-discipline in real life in such a way that we understand what St Paul meant when he wrote about running the good race in our spiritual life.

We learn about forgiveness when we realize that the best professional players can earn millions of dollars for being wrong more than 70% of the time. A player gets up and starts again, and that is a parallel to God's forgiveness.

Go watch a few games this summer and see how many more spiritual lessons you can find in baseball.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd,
Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
Pastor Sheri Harris
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352

Allegan Eyecare Complete Eye Care for the Entire Family 123 Locust St., Allegan 673-5100 • 1-800-797-4351 www.alleganeyecare.com

LEGG LUMBER & Hardware Where the Builders Go! We deliver 730 River St., Allegan 269.673.4470 www.legglumber.com

NAPA AUTO PARTS 1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 269-673-3080

Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com

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Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net

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